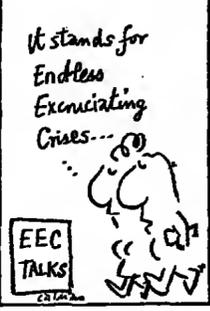


EEC on brink of collapse after fiasco in Athens

From Ian Murray, Athens

The longest ever European summit ended in Athens yesterday to total failure... The subject of the Times Profile is Lord Carrington...



European poll pointer

Summit row can help Tories

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Conservative and Labour MPs expect Common Market negotiations over budgetary arrangements and the Common Agricultural Policy...

Bonn pays £8m for manuscript

By Geraldine Nunn, Sale Room Correspondent

West Germany mounted a magnificent rescue of its cultural heritage at Sotheby's in London yesterday...

Heseltine complains about nuclear film

By David Hewson

Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday formally complained to the Independent Broadcasting Authority...

Grenada law chief walks out on Scoon

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mr Anthony Rushford, the British specialist on constitutional law who was Attorney-General to Grenada's interim administration...



Journey of hope: Mr Lars Ljungberg is wheeled to an intensive care ward after his heart-lung transplant operation at Harefield Hospital yesterday.

Heart-lung transplant 'a success'

By Thomson Prentice, Medical Reporter

The doors of the operating theatre swung open a few minutes before 3 pm yesterday...

Bomb on Jerusalem bus kills four

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The dangerous level of tension in the Middle East was heightened yesterday when a large bomb exploded on a crowded Israeli bus...

Electricity price to be held down

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Electricity prices are unlikely to go up before next autumn, and then by less than 1 per cent...

Footballer wins claim for injuries

A former Scottish footballer accepted an out-of-court settlement yesterday...

School fees made possible by C. Howard & Partners

School fees are a major family budget headache. C. Howard & Partners, the leading planning specialists...

Form for C. Howard & Partners, including contact details and a coupon for school fee information.

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Video... Austin Mitchell on why the Commons must not allow the Lords to beat them to the TV cameras.

New hope for Radio Times

The bumper Christmas issue of Radio Times should now be published after a decision by the print union...

Nato split

Nato foreign ministers from Western Europe are expected to reject an American call for higher spending on new military technology.

Guard accused

A security officer was charged with involvement in the £26m gold bullion robbery from a warehouse near Heathrow...

Car sale record

New car sales in Britain for the first 11 months of the year, totalling 1,720,000, have broken the record for any full year...

Freed by a hair

Mervyn Russell, who spent seven years in jail for murder, was freed after a handful of hair proved that he could not have been the killer.

Bishop dies

Dr John Robinson, who as Bishop of Woolwich started the Church of England with unconventional views on doctrine and sex, has died.

Lambsdorff row

The Cologne Public Prosecutor is suing a Bavarian politician for slander over criticism of the way the corruption case against Otto Graf Lambsdorff was leaked to the press.

Le Monde crisis

Le Monde is again facing serious financial difficulties and has said it will have to lay off another 100 employees.

Cambridge win

Cambridge beat Oxford 20-9 in the university rugby match at Twickenham yesterday, finally overcoming the dogged Oxford defence.

Leader page 17

Letters: On conveying, from Lord Harris of High Cross, and Mr R Lee; civil defence, from Mr Douglas Hurd, MP...

Home News

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Law Report, Parliament. Includes items like Overseas, Appis, Arts, Business, Chess, Court, Crossword, Diary.

Manuscript history, back page

Manuscript history, back page

Civil servants' union demands end to 'artificially low' pay

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Nearly one civil servant in four has an income of less than £100 a week, the Civil Service Union (CSU) said yesterday as a new propaganda offensive on wages got under way in the public sector.

CSU leaders insist that the pay agreement covering more than 500,000 white-collar civil servants from April 1, 1984 must protect the low-paid, the union's general secretary, Mr. John Sheldon, said.

More than 18,000 employees in the public sector claim family income supplement, and the union argues: "For the Government to have to pay out money to its own employees in the form of means-tested benefits which it is not prepared to pay in the form of fair and decent wages is clearly both anomalous and inefficient."

'Fiddling' dispute

The Council for Civil Service Unions wants to halt the mandatory introduction of tough new measures to stop civil servants allegedly "fiddling" their travel and subsistence claims (our Labour Reporter writes).

Guard faces £26m gold charge

By Our Crime Reporter
A security officer was accused yesterday of involvement in the £26m robbery from Heathrow airport, London, last month. The man works for Brinks-Mat which owns the warehouse.

SDP defies Owen on joint selection

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter
The Social Democratic Party has defied the wishes of its leader, Dr David Owen, to allow its members to choose jointly with the Liberals an Alliance candidate in two constituencies for next June's European Parliament elections.



Masked men firing volleys over Brian Campbell's coffin at Coalisland yesterday.

IRA fires graveside volleys

Masked men fired volleys of shots over the coffins of two alleged Provisional IRA terrorists slain by the Special Air Service Regiment (SAS) and belted on top.

The coffins of both men were draped in the republic's tricolour with the men's berets and belts on top.

Neil Latimer, aged 21, and Noel Bell, aged 20, formerly full-time members of the Ulster Defence Regiment from Armagh, were remanded in custody until next Monday when they appeared before Belfast magistrates yesterday charged with murdering Adrian Carroll, aged 24.

Korchnoi loses the chance to draw

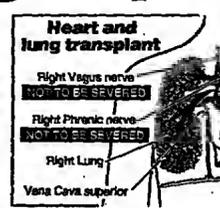
By Harry Golombek
Chess Correspondent
The sixth game of the Korchnoi-Kasparov Acorn Computer World Championship semi-final resumed in London on Monday.

Smyslov played in the massive style for which he was famous as world champion nearly 30 years ago. By the middle game he had established a Rook on the seventh rank and controlled the centre - so Ribli was under great pressure all over the board.

Chess board diagram showing pieces and positions for White Smyslov and Black Ribli. The board is partially filled with pieces like Pawns, Knights, Bishops, Rooks, and Kings. The text indicates the game is a semi-final between Smyslov and Ribli.

Heart-lung transplant 'a success'

Continued from page 1
is then starved of oxygen, and there is no other treatment.



A large part of lung tissue is a thin membrane and the organ can survive outside the body for only about an hour and a half, compared with about six hours for the heart.

The operation cost about £20,000, which will be paid by Swedish health authorities. A further £15,000 has been raised by the people of Falun to pay Mr Lundberg's hospital expenses and for a Swedish nurse who travelled with him.

Some of the risks of heart transplant surgery are avoided in a combined heart-lung operation. Major vessels transferring blood between the heart and lungs remain intact. Additional surgical work is needed for reconnecting the windpipe (the trachea) and advances in surgical procedures have been important for that work.

But great care is necessary to avoid severing main nerve vessels. Interference could paralyse other parts of the body, which would halt breathing, swallowing and interfere with digestive processes.

HAPPILY, THE BUCHANAN BLEND IS STARTING TO SHOW ITS AGE.

A smooth marriage between the consistency of grain whiskies and the character of malt whiskies. And its success was rapid and vast. The Buchanan Blend became a favoured drink everywhere from Music Halls to noble households and founded a world-wide export market.

THE BUCHANAN BLEND TODAY
The Buchanan Blend may not be the easiest brand to find in the shops. But it rewards the determined seeker.

As already mentioned, the youngest whisky in the Blend is a full 8 years old. Which is rare even among the good quality brands.

And another distinctive difference is the goodly measure of matured malt whisky that can be tasted in every dram of The Buchanan Blend.

A little extra maturity makes remarkable differences to whisky. That's why the minimum of 3 years maturing necessary to become a "Scotch Whisky" is not enough for the quality brands.

It is exactly this pursuit of excellence which ensures that the youngest whisky in The Buchanan Blend is a full 8 years old - a fact now proudly displayed on the bottle.

Of course, you can find even older whiskies, but generally at much higher prices.

It is simply The Buchanan Blend's lot to be somewhat superior among the good quality brands.

ANOTHER AGE
Apart from the new label, The Buchanan Blend has long shown its age in a quite different sense: it is one of the earliest of the great whisky names still enduring.

Back in the 1880's, whisky was unpopular outside Scotland.

It varied widely in quality and strength and many attempts were being made to balance the drink by blending.

One of the first men to succeed with such a blend was James Buchanan, once a £10-a-year Glasgow shipping clerk. His new "Buchanan Blend" was

Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

These have been a bad six months for the Liberals and Social Democrats, and if they are not careful the coming year will be even worse.

Some of their difficulties have been inevitable: there was always bound to be a Kinross bonfire. But they have been making the worst of an awkward spell by once again parading their differences before the eyes of a critical electorate.

The argument has once again focused on the selection of candidates - this time for the European Parliament elections in June - and once again the particular point of contention is joint selection. The dispute might have been even worse. On Monday evening the SDP national committee voted by 14 votes to 10 to approve an agreement made by local Social Democrats and Liberals to have the candidate in two constituencies, Durham and Tyne and Wear, chosen jointly by members of both parties.

Had the vote gone the other way, there would have been outrage in the Liberal Party. Not only would joint selection have been vetoed out of hand even as an occasional solution, but the principle of local decision-making would have been rejected with it.

Greater measure of confidence

As it is, the narrowness of the majority, especially bearing in mind that Dr David Owen himself was in the minority, was a warning that there will be no general acceptance of joint selection by the SDP. Some of those who approved this particular arrangement have told the Liberals as much. It is intended to be an exception not a precedent.

To most people it is a matter of supreme indifference how the Liberals and Social Democrats choose their candidates. But it is very relevant that they should do so amicably. If the parties of cooperation and common sense scratch each other's eyes not over this, how

enough to command the confidence of the electorate.

It is possible for a third force to make a serious challenge in a country with the political culture of a two-party system only if it appears capable of forming a credible government. The statistic that ought to cause the Alliance most concern was in a Gallup poll in the Daily Telegraph three weeks ago which recorded 55 per cent believing that only Labour could defeat the Conservatives.

Not all the blame should be put on Dr Owen's insistence on maintaining the separate identity of the SDP. The liberals did not look at their conference like the kind of party which would be eager to merge his fortunes, and Dr Owen has on the whole conducted himself impressively since becoming leader of the SDP. But I am out sure that he has accepted the brutal logic of the Social Democratic position.

Still a good long way to go

When they broke away from Labour they had to choose between trying to wipe out the Liberals or working with them. They chose to work with them; so, with all the difficulties, they had better do so convincingly.

There are a few encouraging signs. The Alliance will probably be able to enter the European Parliament elections with a joint statement of policy. Some joint study groups have been set up - another on the future of work was agreed at yesterday's meetings of the Joint Leaders' Advisory Committee. But the Liberals and the SDP have still a good way to go before they can convince the country that they have combined into an effective political force.

Overseas selling prices
Australia \$28.50, Belgium 8.75, Canada \$21.75, Denmark 12.50, France 15.00, Germany 12.50, Ireland 12.50, Italy 12.50, Japan 12.50, New Zealand 12.50, Norway 12.50, Portugal 12.50, Spain 12.50, Sweden 12.50, Switzerland 12.50, USA 12.50, Yugoslavia 12.50

Government rejects Trust plea for tax concession on estate

By Hugh Clayton
The government refused last night to make a tax concession demanded by the National Trust for the Calke Abbey estate near Burton-on-Trent. Ministers decided not to alter their earlier ruling that only the mansion and the park could be accepted in place of tax even though the trust claimed that the last chance of keeping the estate intact was about to be lost.

Agents for Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe, who owns the 14,400-acre estate, have begun to arrange sales of outlying land to some tenants. The estate has been owned by the same family for more than 300 years and is best known for its vast mansion where nothing has been touched since Victorian times.

The trust and the Save Britain's Heritage organization regard the house as a unique piece of social history which could be kept intact and opened to the public if the Government accepted it instead of tax and gave it to the trust complete with enough of its land to provide a maintenance endowment.

Mr Harpur-Crewe has a tax bill of almost £9m with interest of about £1m that rising at a rate of well over £1,000 a day. The tax bill arose when Mr Harpur-Crewe inherited the estate from his brother.

Mr Angus Stirling, Director-General of the trust, explained that the trust would need £4m for an endowment and £3.5m for capital expenditure if it accepted the estate.

That could be raised from farms surrounding the house and its immediate park. But the Government insists that it can accept only the mansion and parkland in place of tax. The farms owned to provide cash for the trust remain classed as "non-heritage" and cannot be accepted instead of tax payments.

Callaghan's check on honours list

By Anthony Berins
Political Correspondent
Mr Norman Atkinson, a former Labour Party treasurer, revealed yesterday that he had been asked by Mr James Callaghan, when Prime Minister, to check proposed honours lists.

He told the Commons during a debate on the Companies (Political Contributions) Bill that Mr Callaghan had wanted to be sure that candidates had not made contributions to party funds.

Mr Atkinson said afterwards that Mr Callaghan had cited the Honours (Prevention of Abuse) Act, 1925, and had given a warning that if the person honoured had signed a contribution cheque or otherwise authorized payment, there would be a prima facie offence.

The Act, laying down maximum penalties of two years' imprisonment or a £500 fine makes buying or selling honours a misdemeanour.

Mr Atkinson said: "Jim Callaghan was very fastidious about this."

Asked by The Times whether Mr Callaghan had not honoured leaders of unions which had made donations to Labour Mr Atkinson said: "They do not personally give donations."

Parliamentary report, page 4

Random lie tests at GCHQ

By Peter Hennessy
The use of lie-detectors, or polygraphs, to "mole-proof" Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) in Cheltenham is to be more extensive than originally thought, it was disclosed yesterday at a conference in London on Whitehall security organized by the Society of Civil and Public Servants.

A letter from the Cabinet Office to Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, made available at the conference, stated: "The selection of those to be polygraphed will be on a random basis involving initially those whose positive vetting is due for quinquennial review."

It had been previously thought that the lie-detector would be preserved for those occupying posts in the Secret Services with access to the most sensitive information, and that it would be on a voluntary basis.

A clash with the Civil Service unions is likely in the spring, when the secret signals and electronic intelligence stations in Cheltenham will mount the first lie-detector tests.

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Handful of hair clears convicted killer after seven years in jail

Fresh evidence from a pathologist about hairs found in a murdered girl's hand yesterday cleared the man convicted of killing her seven years ago.

Mervyn John Russell, aged 39, was jailed for life by the Central Criminal Court in 1977 for stabbing Miss Alison Bigwood.

Yesterday he walked free from the Court of Appeal after Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that the fresh evidence pointed inescapably to the fact that Mr Russell could not have been the killer.

Mr Russell, who had been a squatter in the block of flats in Deptford, south London, where Miss Bigwood lived, had spent more than seven years in prison since his arrest a few weeks after the killing.

He had gone to the police and admitted possession of the murder weapon, although he said the knife was also used by other squatters.

Mr Russell was convicted in October 1977, and appealed the following November. The appeal judges held that they had no "hurdling doubt" over the safety of the conviction, but the law reform pressure group justice did have doubts.

The case was referred back to the Court of Appeal by the Home Office after a documentary on BBC Television's *Rough Justice* series.

The Home Office also ordered the exhumation of another man who figured in the case at the time of the killing in 1976.

Mr Russell's lawyers wanted a sample of head hair from the corpse of Mr Michael Molnar to be compared with that found in the victim's hand, but the comparison proved useless.

Lord Lane, who sat with Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Macpherson, said the fresh evidence from the pathologist, Dr John Torry, had caused the court great anxiety. It pointed

inescapably to the fact that Miss Bigwood, an art student aged 20, had clutched the head of her killer and there was no doubt that the hairs did not belong to Mr Russell.

"We see no escape, despite the very strong prosecution case against this man, from the conclusion that something may very well have gone wrong in this case", he said.

The judge said earlier that circumstantial evidence was often very powerful and could sometimes outweigh identification evidence.

"But if, in a case which depends on circumstantial evidence, there are unexplained features which are not consistent with the guilt of the accused, then any conviction may well turn out to be unsafe."

Dr Torry's evidence was the only aspect of Mr Russell's new appeal that the judges allowed. Two other points were rejected.

After the case, Mr Tom Sargent, former secretary of Justice, said he would press for compensation for Mr Russell.

Mr Sargent said Mr Russell was "in a state of extreme shock. Right up until the last moment he thought he was going back to prison tonight."

He said Mr Russell would spend his first night of freedom with friends in London. "He has not had time to think about the future yet."



Free: Mervyn Russell before his conviction.



Cheers, a Charolais-Aberdeen Angus cross, voted supreme champion at Smithfield yesterday.

Meat trade's quest to sell more beef

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

To no one's surprise, the supreme champion of this year's Royal Smithfield Show is yet again a Charolais-Aberdeen Angus cross steer and yet again from Scotland.

Present conventional wisdom is that the mating of big continental breeds with native beef cattle is the way to get the best of both worlds.

However, it is no disrespect to this year's winner, Cheers, or to its owner, Mr John Lascelles, of Carnonnie, Tayside, to suggest that it is not particularly relevant to the present problems of the meat industry.

For several years consumption of beef and lamb has been declining. This is generally attributed to their relatively high prices and to the competitive appeal of processed convenience foods, but Mr Geoffrey Harrington, director of planning and development at the Meat and Livestock Commission, thinks that it may also be due to dissatisfaction with quality.

There are several possible reasons why beef is not what it used to be, the main one being that dairy herds have rapidly expanded at the expense of suckler herds. Most beef, therefore, comes from Friesian or Holstein bullocks which, for all their mothers' prowess as milk producers, do not provide the most tender or tasty meat.

Another reason is that modern slaughterhouse techniques involve rapid chilling of carcasses, with no time for the meat to hang properly. Butchers have complained that because the animals are bigger than they used to be, they are slaughtered too early instead of being left to grow to maturity.

Scientists tend to dismiss such complaints as nonsense and the acrimony came to a head at the recent Scottish Agricultural Winter Fair when one of the judges described the commission as "crackpots" for encouraging the production of excessively lean meat.

The commission is now setting up consumer panels to test acceptability.

Dissections in biology lessons for review

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Complaints about the cutting up of animals in biology lessons are causing the nine GCE examination boards in England, Wales and Northern Ireland to consider whether dissection should be required for O and A level.

The boards' biology subject officers are to discuss a paper surveying present practices and attitudes and whether these should be changed. The paper will be prepared by Mr Howard King, a biologist and one of the secretaries of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

This initiative comes as the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection is distributing leaflets entitled *Dissection: Your Right to Refuse* to schools and coincides with a similar review by the Inner London Education Authority. Some children have refused to take part in dissection exercises.

Mr King said the Oxford and Cambridge boards had received only three complaints, all from members of the public. But local education officers had also approached the boards to ask for a clarification of present practices.

Most of the nine examination boards include dissection of a mammal almost always a rat, in the syllabus for practical A level biology and zoology. It will not always appear on an examination paper, but if it does and the pupil declines to answer, he or she will lose marks. The Associated Examining Board does not require dissection.

Dissection of an animal by a pupil is not required for biology O level although examiners expect children to know about the insides of a mammal. They would learn about this from models, diagrams and films or perhaps by watching their teacher perform a dissection.

Car sales set record but imports fall

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

New car sales in Britain for the first 11 months of this year broke the previous record for any full year, thanks to a sudden upsurge in buying during the closing days of November.

More than 1,720,000 cars were registered from January to November, compared with 1,716,000 in the whole of 1979.

But November was not a happy month for the importers. New car registration details released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders yesterday showed that the importers' 53.7 per cent share of the market was the second lowest in three years.

Datsun, the largest importer, saw its November share fall from 10.3 to 5.2 per cent. Volkswagen-Audi was another substantial loser, down from 7.8 to 4.2 per cent.

But the biggest contributor to the improved fortunes of British built cars was Ford which has been importing nearly half its sales from West

Germany, Belgium and Spain. Last month, however, it reversed the trend with two out of every three cars sold coming from Dagenham or Halewood.

Last night, a Ford spokesman said: "This is in line with our objective of increasing UK car sales at the expense of imports. However, there were some other factors last month, such as the need to make up for the shortfall in production from Halewood as a result of a delivery drivers' strike in October."

Ford retained its market leadership in November, with 28.2 per cent, followed by BL with 19.6 per cent.

Dealers last night said the record 34,000 cars sold in the last 10 days of November, reflected by some motor traders who gave up to 25 per cent discounts to avoid being left with large stocks of unsold cars over the poor selling winter months.

£5,000 an acre for prime land

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Competition for prime agricultural land has forced prices for small acreages to record levels of up to £5,000 an acre in the past few months, particularly in the fenland area of East Anglia, according to a report published yesterday.

Writing in *Property Outlook '84* published by Savills, surveyors and property consultants, Mr Henry Richards says that during the year prices for the best farms have increased by 10 to 20 per cent, and continued improvement is expected for 1984.

The area attracting the highest prices is a small part of the fens, about 40,000 acres, in the Spalding and Boston area of Lincolnshire. In September small parcels of Grade 1 silt land, fetched from £3,500 an acre. Grade 1 land comprises about 2 per cent of agricultural land, of which one-sixth is silt.

In a separate article, Mr Geoffrey van Cutsem predicts a 12 per cent increase during 1984 for residential property as a whole.

Maritime Museum to charge

By Our Arts Correspondent

The National Maritime Museum is to become the first national museum to impose admission charges in an attempt to compensate for public spending cuts.

Visitors to the museum and the Old Royal Observatory, both at Greenwich, south London, will pay £1.50 admission from next April, with reduced rates for children, pensioners, the disabled and unemployed, and people living near the museum.

Dr Neil Cossons, the museum's director, said yesterday: "The only way forward I can see is to increase revenue. This would bring in £500,000 of new money and increase our disposable income by 34 per cent, so it is a very significant extra."

The museum attracts about 600,000 visitors a year, many of them tourists, and receives nearly £6m in public subsidy from the Office of Arts and Libraries and the Property Services Agency.

The extra money will enable the museum to reopen on Mondays and on public holidays when it has traditionally been closed. More than half will be devoted to restoring services, marketing the museum and catering for people living near it, Dr Cossons said.

Rugby star abandons libel action

Dr J P R Williams, the former Welsh rugby international, said yesterday he is abandoning his libel action over allegations of "shamateurism" made in the *Daily Telegraph*.

His decision came after a Court of Appeal ruling yesterday which means he will have to pay an estimated £30,000 costs. He said he was withdrawing because of strain on his family and his financial resources.

Dr Williams, aged 33, an orthopaedic surgeon, was awarded £20,000 damages last year over allegations that he broke the rules by accepting money for his autobiography. Last month the Court of Appeal quashed the award and ordered a new trial.

The newspaper will have to pay an estimated £50,000 costs.



J. P. R. Williams: Strain on family.

Charge over boy in waste bin

A schoolboy aged 12 appeared at Camberwell Juvenile Court, south London, yesterday, accused of taking away a boy aged 4 by force and causing him actual bodily harm. He was remanded in the care of Southwark Borough Council until next Tuesday.

The boy he is accused of taking was found in a waste bin in Burgess Park, Walworth, south London.

Hypnotic drive for more sales

A security firm in Tamworth, Staffordshire, is sending its five salesmen with weekly half-hour sessions with a hypnotist to encourage them to "get up and go" and increase orders.

The managing director, Mr Dennis Wall, said that he had tried giving them "pep" talks and taking them for a drink but he thought the hypnotist would be even more effective.

Deadline met

The UK Optical Company at Cydwell, Dyfed, has taken just 10 weeks to make 1,500,000 spectacle lenses for the Soviet Union, taking on an extra 120 staff to complete the order in time.

BR tries airliner-style coaches

The familiar sign that "passengers must not use the lavatory while the train is standing in the station" is likely to begin disappearing as a new generation of airliner-style railway coaches come into operation.

British Rail Engineering has begun testing a prototype of its "international coach" destined chiefly for the lucrative £400m a year export market for rolling stock. But it is due to go into experimental service on the London-Manchester and London-Liverpool routes late next year.

Designed to make passengers think they are in an airliner, the coaches will boast luxury reclining seats, stereo headphones, telephones, tray meals brought to the seat and a trolley buffet. Railway operators will also be offered "retention toilets" of the type in use on aircraft which will do away with that infuriating wait

while the train pulls out of a station.

More prosaically but more important to the Engineering management, the "international coach" is intended to win the state rolling-stock builder a bigger slice of the world market than the meagre 2 per cent it has now.

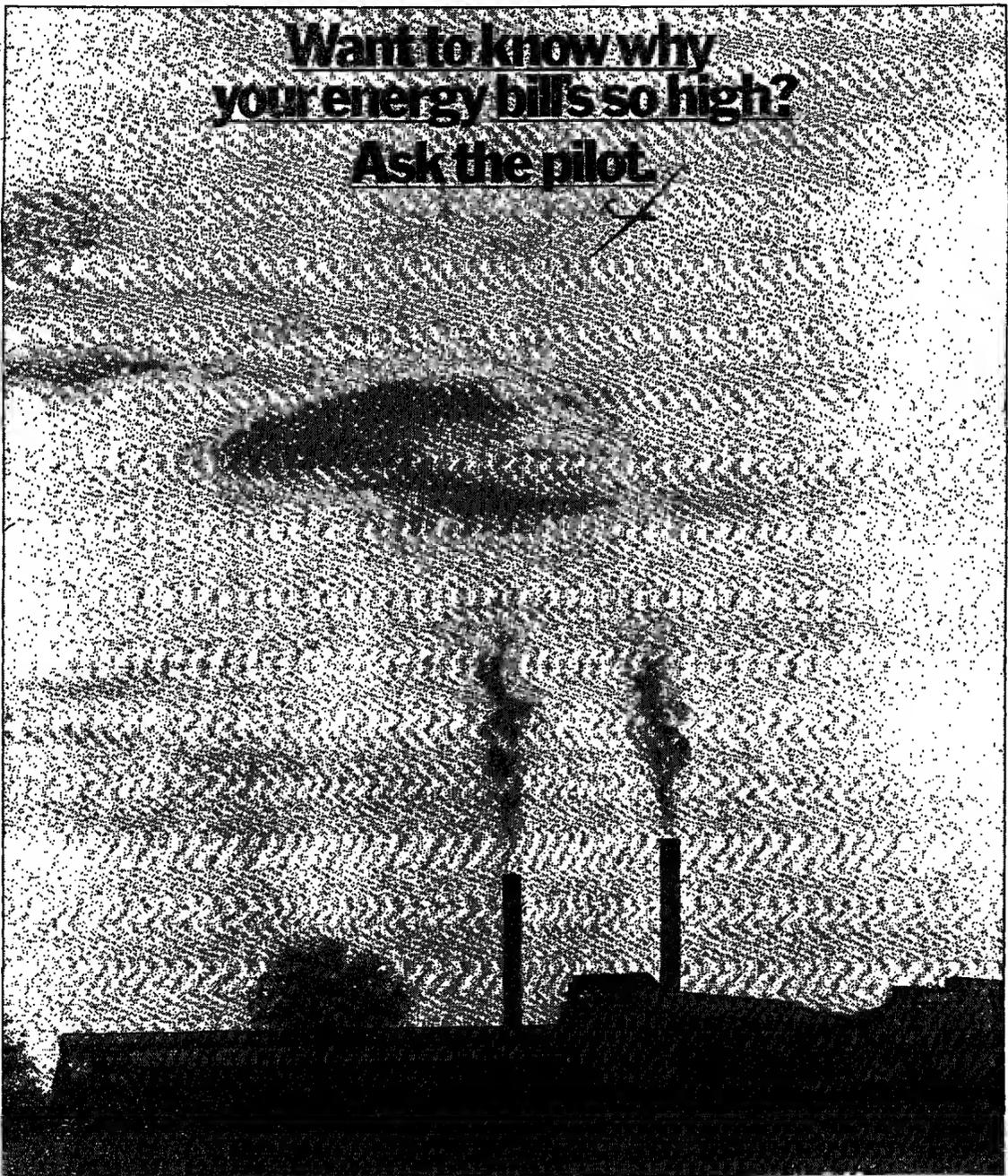
The coaches will cost about £250,000 each, and the firm hopes to capture £20m of business a year by offering luxury carriages suitable for practically any leading gauge. Africa and the Middle East are regarded as prime targets for the company.

Mr Philip Norman, the company's managing director, said yesterday: "My international coach is going to be the return of the real first class. We are trying to break into the international market." But many jobs and perhaps the future of the company's huge

workshops in Derby also rest on the prestige venture.

British Rail Engineering has reduced its labour force by about a quarter in the past three years, from 37,000 down to 28,000 and manpower is set to be cut still further next year with the closure of the 1,200-employee Shildon wagon works in co Durham by June 30. Temple Mills works in east London has practically shut, and Horwich, near Bolton, Greater Manchester is in the throes of closure.

The company bidding for £120m worth of orders in Nigeria and for a similar amount of business in Greece for high-speed trains, locomotives, rail buses and wagons. Orders from sources other than British Rail have totalled £12m in the past six weeks. Among them is an order for coaches to be supplied to the Irish Republic.



Want to know why your energy bills so high? Ask the pilot

Any glider pilot will tell you that a glider rises on hot air currents, or thermals. And that one of the best places to find a thermal is over a factory.

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In a nutshell, the melting of glass produces a lot of waste heat. Some obviously can't be reused because of pollution, but a considerable amount can.

What Pilkington did was to install a system that used the hot air that could be recycled, to heat their warehouse to prevent condensation from forming on the stored glass.

The estimated annual savings will enable the scheme to pay for itself in three years. Perhaps you could install a scheme on

similar lines? To find out, send in the coupon and we'll send you details of this and other ways to save energy.

It's good news for you, but perhaps not quite such good news for the pilot.

2c The Energy Efficiency Office, PO Box 702, London SW20 8SZ. Please send me more information on waste heat recovery and how I can make better use of energy.

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY OFFICE

PARLIAMENT December 6 1983

PM to report on UK troops in Lebanon

MIDDLE EAST

The position of British troops in the Lebanon was under constant review, Mr John Biffen, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House told the Commons when answering questions on behalf of the Prime Minister...



Seames: If attacked will we have air power?

of the nature of the agreement between the United States and Israel last week. If so, what are its terms? Mr Biffen: I am not in a position to answer that question and I, therefore, would not seek to do so.

Prospects of more in work and cut in long-term jobless

EMPLOYMENT

There were encouraging signs in the unemployment situation, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, said during Commons questions. For the first time he added, it was possible to see real prospects of more people in real jobs and real prospects of seeing a reduction in long-term unemployment.

Rejection of Bill on honours and political donations

PARTY FUNDS

An application by Mr Anstie Mitchell (Great Grimsby) to leave to bring in a Bill to limit political donations by companies so that such donations were paid by assessing shareholders in proportion to the size of their shareholdings, and to regulate the method of payment, was rejected by the Commons by 271 votes to 172 - majority against, 99.

Aid and comfort to communist friends

NUCLEAR

he shed light on a subject which is causing anxiety. Mr Biffen: I am not certain of Mr Hughes's desire for illumination but I can assure him that British policy on the bases of its major allies remains unchanged, as it is our desire that this country should remain part of Nato, and our determination that we should not fall to the blandishments of the unilateralists and neutralists.

Committee to clarify conflict

PRIVILEGE

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, introduced a motion in the Lords for the purpose of which, he explained, was to invite the Committee for Privileges to clarify an apparent conflict between the privilege of the House and certain statutory provisions which had recently been the subject of judicial comment.

Equal pay rules applied

The Government was committed completely to the principle of equal rights for women, and the Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value Order which was approved in the House of Lords yesterday would become operative on January 1 next year, Mr Alan Clark, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said in the Commons.

Selection not immoral or illegal

EDUCATION

The prophets of doom who had said the passing of the grammar schools in favour of comprehensive schools would mean the most able children would suffer, had been proved wrong, Mr Giles Radice, chief Opposition spokesman on education, said during Commons questions.

Falklands defence policy not of Britain's choosing

HOUSE OF LORDS

Once the present rehabilitation, recovery and planning period was over, the cost of defending the Falkland Islands should be minimal, Lord Buxton of Alton (C) said when he opened a debate in the Lords in which he drew attention to the strategic importance of the Falklands and other British islands in the South Atlantic.

Q. WHAT'S RED AND WHITE AND GENEROUS AT CHRISTMAS? A. THE PETER DOMINIC WINE LIST. No riddle, more a dilemma, because of the wonderful choice and fine value that we know goes down so well this time of year. Includes wine list with prices and contact information for Peter Dominic Wine.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Judge', 'result', 'Buxton: Impasse reached', 'Lord Shackleton', 'Parliament today', and 'Cigarette offers'.

Judges criticize labour laws for 'curious result' in Dimbleby case

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The Court of Appeal dealing with a union dispute at Mr David Dimbleby's newspaper group strongly criticiz... the Government's labour laws yesterday.

Giving reasons for rejecting an appeal by the National Union of Journalists, the judges declared that the Employment Act, 1980, had produced a "curious result" in the case.

The union has been defying a High Court injunction ordering it to withdraw a strike instruction given to its members at the Richmond & Twickenham Times group in south-west London owned by Mr Dimbleby, the broadcaster.

The journalists are taking action because Mr Dimbleby decided to transfer the printing of his newspapers to the non-union TBF Printers in Nottingham.

The union argued that because the company was associated with T. Bailey Foreman, with which it has a five-year-old dispute, the strike could not be described as "secondary action" and therefore illegal.

The Court of Appeal yesterday explained that the action was secondary because the two companies were separate legal entities, and it refused leave for the union to appeal to the House of Lords. But the judges expressed strong reservations about the effect of the law.

If T. Bailey Foreman had

produced the papers on its own presses, the union's action would have been protected. However, owner of the business chose to operate through an associated company, TBF Printers, so the union did not have the protection of the law.

Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, said some people think it odd that the union's liability should depend on what might reasonably be regarded as almost a matter of chance.

"Whether or not the union would be right so to regard the position, that appears without doubt to be the law," Sir John said.

Lord Justice Griffiths said the dispute that had blown up had nothing to do with the Dimbleby journalists' terms and conditions of employment. Neither the union nor the journalists had raised any complaint about their terms and conditions.

One union source said that employers now had only to set up numerous "ghost" companies in order to destroy the effectiveness of the whole trade union movement.

Meanwhile, in a statement yesterday, Mr Dimbleby said there would be "a pause" before he sought to take contempt of court action over the union's refusal to withdraw the strike instruction.

Such action could lead to fines and eventually sequestration of the unions funds.

Mr Dimbleby said he was "determined the injunction we won will be observed".

On Friday the union's executive meets in London and will discuss the statement and the possibility of appealing directly to the House of Lords.

Mr Dimbleby is expected to meet Mr Kenneth Ashton, NUJ general secretary, next Monday.

Picket fined

A lecturer was fined yesterday for an offence in connection with the picketing of the Messenger group in Cheshire (our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

Bruce Spencer, aged 37, of Bridge Avenue, Ormskirk, Lancashire, was arrested on Tuesday last week for obstructing the road outside the Warrington print works.

Warrington magistrates were told yesterday he threw himself in front of a van leaving the premises and then sat down in the road. He was fined £25 with £25 costs.

A Sogart '82 union worker, William Mottershead, was bailed to appear at a date to be fixed. Mr Mottershead, aged 30, of Holcombe Avenue, Bury, was remanded in his absence accused of causing an obstruction.

A further 21 men, all arrested on the picket line, were remanded on bail.

Law report, page 11



Mr David Crouch, Conservative MP for Canterbury, and one of the organizers of the annual art exhibition by MPs, with Sir William Rees-Mogg, Chairman of the Arts Council, at the opening ceremony in the Upper Waiting Hall at the House of Commons yesterday. (Photograph: Brian Harris).

Audience boost for Festival Hall

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

Concert audiences at the Festival Hall have risen for the first time in five years, which may mean a cut in the GLC's £4m subsidy.

About 459,000 people attended concerts at the hall between April and November, an increase of 30,000 over the same period last year, according to a report to be presented to the council's arts and recreation committee today. But audience levels are still well below those of two years ago.

A GLC survey suggests that the existing audience consists mainly of a "slowly declining number of middle-aged, upper class people making many visits a year".

Today's meeting is expected to back a £233,000 advertising campaign to attract more people. Mr Tony Banks, the committee chairman, said: "The dramatic rise in audiences at the Festival Hall marks the first upturn in its fortunes for five years."

It means not only more people enjoying the best in music, but also the future promise of reducing the current GLC subsidy of around £4m a year.

South Bank Concert Halls		
	Admissions	GLC subsidy April-Nov
1981	512,999	£3.9m
1982	428,070	£3.8m
1983	459,074	£4.3m

Death crash driver 'may have been adjusting radio'

From Our Correspondent, Cullompton

The driver of a coach which crashed on the M5 killing a teacher and seriously injuring 20 school-children may have been adjusting his radio when the accident happened, a court was told yesterday.

The 57-seat coach crashed into the back of a lorry parked on the hard shoulder of the motorway at Cullompton, Devon, it was alleged at a special magistrates' court in Cullompton.

A teacher, Mrs Dalcia Moss, aged 28, died in the crash. Twenty children aged 13 and 14 were seriously injured and 20 other children and three adults were less badly hurt.

The coach driver, Allan Johnson, aged 34 of Nelson Street Barrow in Furnes, Cumbria, denied driving without due care and attention. He was on the final leg of an overnight trip from the Lake School in Windermere when the crash happened six months ago.

He was driving the party to Plymouth to join the ferry for a school trip to France.

Mr Martin Adams, for the prosecution, said that Johnson's eyes may have been off the road as he adjusted his radio. Mr Adams said that forensic tests showed the coach had been travelling at up to 78 mph.

Johnson conceded to police that he was going above the legal speed limit.

The case was adjourned until today.

'Neglected' horses had to be shot

From Craig Seton, Minehead

Six horses left in "a beautiful condition" in the care of three men while their owner was away, were so badly neglected that two of them had to be shot, it was alleged at Minehead Magistrates' Court in Somerset, yesterday.

The court was told that Mr Roland Ford, a partner in a firm of auctioneers and chairman of the Quantock Staghounds, was appointed land agent and was in overall charge when Mrs Barbara Henson went to New Zealand for six months.

Mr Ford, of Sampford Brett, near Minehead; Mr Nelson Burden, a farm manager; and Mr Thomas Stark, a farm worker, all denied causing unnecessary suffering to animals.

Mr Michael Lloyd-Davies, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, said that Mrs Henson, of Crowcombe, near Taunton, returned from New Zealand to find that one of her horses had been shot and five others were in an "appalling" state.

Mr Lloyd-Davies said they had been examined a month earlier and a veterinary surgeon had found a stallion lying in an emaciated condition with little food in the vicinity. "It was clear that it was suffering from starvation. It was in such a bad state that the vet returned later that day and shot it".

The case continues on January 3.

Adamson sued by solicitor

Mr Peter Adamson, who was dismissed as a Coronation Street actor, is being sued for £48,000 by Mr Colin Nuttall, the solicitor who helped to clear him of indecency charges.

Mr Nuttall has issued a writ for the recovery of legal fees he says he is owed by Mr Adamson.

The case will be heard today, the day that Mr Adamson's screen character, Len Fairclough is killed off in a motorway crash in the Granada television serial.

Mr Gerald Taylor, Bury District Registrar, is expected to agree to an application from Mr Adamson's London solicitors, whom he employed after dismissing Mr Nuttall, for the account to be subject to a taxation, a private line-by-line examination of the fees.

Mr Nuttall said yesterday that the £48,000 was made up of £35,000 of his own fees and £13,000 which he had still to pay towards the cost of Mr George Carmou, a barrister, and Mr John Dowse, a junior barrister.

"I have had so much aggravation from this case that I wish I had never taken it on in the first place", Mr Nuttall said. He felt his £50-an-hour fee for 700 hours was not extraordinary for such a case.

"There is a lot of responsibility when dealing with a major trial like this."

Mr Adamson, aged 53, is earning a reported £1,000 a week as Inspector Hubbard in Agatha Christie's *Dial M for Murder* at Vaudeville Theatre in London.

Car that killed five had defective brakes

A wealthy farmer whose Bentley ploughed into a queue of traffic, killing a family of five, knew that his car's brakes were faulty, Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court was told.

Thomas Dale, aged 63, of Scoughall Farm, North Berwick, had driven at speeds of 70 mph, overtaking dangerously and had ignored traffic lights before the crash, the court was told.

It was alleged that Dale, who suffers from Parkinson's Disease, had driven into the family's Citroen 2CV rather than swerve off the road.

Sianne Adamson aged 7, Her sister Sasha, aged 5, Stefan Gosbee, aged 13 months and their mother Fiona Campbell, aged 24, all died immediately. Miss Campbell's fiancé, Stephen Gosbee, aged 24, died later in hospital.

The family of Cumbræ Park, Glenrothes, Fife, were travelling to Mr Gosbee's parents' home in Essex when the crash happened at temporary traffic lights near Belford.

Their car was last in the queue when Dale's 30-year-old Bentley, run into it after overtaking a lorry. The Citroen was so badly crushed that the rear seat was imbedded in the windscreen.

Dale admitted causing the deaths by reckless driving and was given a six-month suspended jail sentence, fined £2,000 and banned from driving for life.

Mr John Milford, for the prosecution, said: "He was driving far too fast when he well knew he had defective brakes, and against a background of a disease which slowed him down."

Cruel Kissinger cartoon 'not anti-semitic'

A deliberately cruel attack on Dr Henry Kissinger in a cartoon strip in *The Guardian* was intended to lampoon him for his policies and not because he was Jewish, the Press Council says today in rejecting a complaint that the cartoon was offensive and anti-semitic.

Mr David Myers, of Westminster, Kent, had equated the cartoon with Nazi propaganda and said he was stunned that such a "mindless and offensive" portrayal was endorsed by *The Guardian*.

In the strip cartoon *IF...* Dr Kissinger was caricatured as a turkey with an exaggerated nose. Mr Myers wrote to the editor: "The unforgivable hurt you have perpetrated, the blind and callous injustice you have inflicted and your chilling and wicked disregard for the feelings of others can only bring scorn and contempt upon your newspaper".

Mr Michael McNay, *The Guardian's* Assistant Editor Design/Graphics, wrote to Mr Myers saying "Dr Kissinger is satirized for his involvement in the bombings of North Vietnam and Cambodia, and for his destabilization of such countries as Chile. These seem to us legitimate targets for a cartoonist. Anti-semitism is not permissible and we would not tolerate it."

After Mr Myers had complained, Mr K. G. Dodd, the executive editor, wrote that he was appalled that Mr Myers appeared to be saying that while it was acceptable to lampoon a non-Jewish politician, it was not acceptable for a Jewish politician to be lampooned for whatever reason.

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Nato likely to reject US request for higher arms technology spending

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

America's call for more spending on military technology is likely to fall on deaf ears when the Nato foreign ministers meet in Brussels tomorrow and Friday.

Even Britain has indicated that it cannot continue increasing its defence budget annually after 1985-86, and most of the other members are of the opinion that the alliance are resigned to making do with what resources they have during the lean years expected in the late 1980s.

But Britain and other leading Western powers also foresee a need to restrain some of the smaller less committed member states from being tempted towards Soviet offers of a nuclear weapons freeze.

This assembly has assumed special significance, coming as it does just after the breakdown of the European missile talks in Geneva, a new crisis in Greek-Turkish relations, speculation about President Andropov's health, and fresh US concern over burden-sharing among European members of the alliance.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will be among those arguing against the expectation of any "easy pickings" in arms control in the foreseeable future. The British view is that the West should, however, seek to reopen channels of communication with Moscow, without necessarily returning to the kind of détente of the 1970s.

The foreign office hopes to restore the visit to Britain by a deputy Soviet foreign minister which was cancelled after the Korean airliner was shot down three months ago. Mrs Thatcher has already announced her intention to visit Hungary in the new year.

The foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, France and Italy, the four countries which have contributed peacekeeping forces to Lebanon are expected to meet "in the margins" of the Brussels conference. A similar gathering is expected of those countries involved in trying to secure a settlement of the Namibia issue.

Nato ministers are also likely to arrange another informal get-together in the near future - similar to that held earlier this year in Quebec. The West Germans have suggested such meetings on a regular basis.

● BRUSSELS: A £2,000m agreement between Washington and Bonn to provide missiles for the air defence of West Germany was signed yesterday (Rodney Cowton writes).

Under the agreement 36 fire units for the Patriot high altitude air defence missile system will be deployed as well as many Roland Franco-German surface-to-air missile systems.

The agreement, which will run from 1985 to 1997, was signed in Brussels by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, and Herr Manfred Wörner, his German counterpart.

Mr Weinberger said that when the weapons were fully deployed they would constitute a change by Nato from nuclear to conventional air defence. There would then be no Nato nuclear air defence.

● GENEVA: The current round of strategic arms reduction talks (Start) between the United States and the Soviet Union will end tomorrow, the seven-day meeting since negotiations began on June 29 last year (Alan McGregor writes).

The meeting yesterday at the

US disarmament delegation building lasted one hour and five minutes and was followed by a working lunch hosted by the Russians.

The round, which has gone the normal two-month course, would normally be followed by a recess of similar duration. But Moscow reports indicate that the Soviet side intends to break off the talks indefinitely, as has already happened with the parallel INF negotiations on intermediate range nuclear systems in Europe.

While the chief Soviet delegate, Mr Viktor Karpov, has repeatedly maintained that a Start agreement has been precluded by US intractability, American officials say the Russians have several times tried to introduce the issue of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles.

The American attitude has been that these were the subject of the separate INF discussions and had no place in Start.

● BELGRADE: Warsaw Pact defence ministers meeting in Sofia were expected yesterday to discuss their response to the signing of the new US medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

The ministers from the seven communist military alliance countries began their first joint meeting on Monday since the new missiles began arriving, with Romania alone among them calling for a freeze on all new missiles, including Soviet ones, in Europe.

● STOCKHOLM: Mr Olof Palme, Sweden's Prime Minister, yesterday denied that he had tried to reach a secret deal with the Soviet Union to stop Russian submarine incursions into Swedish waters (Christopher Mosey writes).



In the driving seat: Mr Caspar Weinberger, US Defence Secretary, puts a Bradley troop carrier through its paces in the Hohenfels training area, Bavaria. He was visiting US Army installations.

Food for thought on nuclear survival

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Britons who are preparing to watch *The Day After* this weekend may derive some comfort from the knowledge that crops and even farm livestock are more likely to survive a nuclear holocaust than human beings. So there should be plenty to eat for the fortunate few not killed by the blast or by radiation.

This is the conclusion of a report prepared by an American Government agency which has been studying the possible effects that a nuclear attack would have on agriculture. The report, prepared by the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) states bluntly that "sufficient production seems assured to meet survivor needs".

The fact that Washington should have authorized such a study has unleashed a storm of criticism. Representative Thomas Harkin (Democrat, Iowa), who brought the report to public attention, described it as "shocking and disgraceful".

He added: "The misdirected perceptions of those involved ought to shock us all. With information like this, it is no wonder that there are those in our Government who believe that we can win a nuclear war".

The report states that the impact of a full-scale nuclear attack on food production would depend on its timing. A spring attack would hurt planting a June strike would affect crop yields more than one in August.

The report avoids two key considerations. These are: how would farmers manage to grow crops in the "dead dirt" that would be left after an attack? And what effect would nuclear war have on the weather?

Le Monde in more financial trouble

From Diana Geddes Paris

Le Monde is again facing serious financial difficulties. Less than six months after its decision to lay off 50 of its 1,300 staff, it has announced that it must shed another 100 jobs to survive.

The paper's losses last year totalled 17.8m francs (£1.5m). Advertising revenue is sharply down, as it is for all French national newspapers, and its circulation this year has fallen by 50,000 to a total of 350,000, down 18 per cent from its peak three years ago.

About 40 per cent of Le Monde's stock is owned by an association of the paper's 184 editorial staff. The latest cuts will affect all categories, including the journalists, who went on strike for two days last June in protest against earlier reductions.

Le Monde is not alone in facing financial troubles. Nearly all the 11 surviving national dailies (down from 28 immediately after the war) have been hit by the economic crisis and by increasing competition from radio and television news. National daily sales have fallen by more than a quarter in the last decade. The provincial press has been much less affected.

The Government is worried about the state of the national press and, hot on the heels of its highly controversial Bill to restrict large press groups, is planning to introduce further legislation to amend the existing scheme of state assistance for the press, which totals more than 5 billion francs (£400m) a year in direct and indirect aid.

It is particularly concerned about the provision which grants tax rebates to newspapers reinvigorating their profits, as it provides no benefit for those that most need help - the losers.

The "anti-trust" press Bill is expected to get a stormy reception when it goes before Parliament for a first reading on December 15. M Georges Folloud, Minister for Press and Communications, made it clear yesterday, however, that the Government has not closed its mind to possible changes.

Under the Bill's present provisions no one man or group will be permitted to own both a national and a provincial daily; the combined sales of a group's national or provincial dailies may not exceed 15 per cent of the total sales in that same category; and no group may own more than three national newspapers, all of which may be dailies.

M Robert Hersant, right-wing owner of the largest newspaper group in France, has three national newspapers whose sales amount to nearly 40 per cent of total national daily sales, as well as 14 provincial papers and a string of weekly papers and magazines.

The opposition parties, who maintain that the Bill represents an outrageous attack on the liberty of the press, have put down a censure motion against the Government, which is due to be debated the day before the Bill's first reading.

Officers on Secrets Act charges in India

Delhi (reuter) - Three senior retired military officers and a civilian have been arrested under the official Secrets Act.

A newspaper report said one of the former officers had given American diplomats secret details of India's arms purchases from the Soviet Union.

An official statement said an investigation had been launched after an Air Force officer reported being offered a reward for giving classified information. It did not mention the United States or Pakistan.

General flees from Kabul

Peshawar (AFP) - General Muhammad Rahim, commander of the Seventh Division of the Afghan Army in Kabul, has fled to Pakistan, it was reported here.

He was reported to have said the Afghan army now numbered 35,000 against 100,000 when the Soviet army entered Afghanistan four years ago. Afghan officers were treated "in a humiliating fashion" by their Soviet counterparts.

Hijack appeal

Seoul (reuter) - The Seoul High Court began hearing appeals on jail sentences of up to six years imposed on five Chinese men and a woman who hijacked a Chinese airliner to South Korea in May. They claimed they were political refugees and demanded asylum in Taiwan.

Five accused

Tehran (reuter) - The first trial of members of the banned Iranian Communist Party began yesterday with five accused of spying and aiming to overthrow the Islamic Republic appearing in a revolutionary court.

San Remo (AP) - Italian police arrested three city officials yesterday, bringing to nine the number of San Remo officials seized in a crackdown on alleged Mafia activities in Italian cascos.

Finnish gift

Tokyo - The United Nations University, established in 1973 as a centre for international research with headquarters in Tokyo, has accepted an offer from Finland worth \$20m (about £20m) to set up a World Institute for Development Economics Research in Helsinki.

Chile protest

Santiago (reuter) - Five demonstrators and four police were injured and five protesters arrested in clashes over low pay on Chilean Government jobs schemes. Thousands of workers took part in the protest outside La Granja town hall, south Santiago.

Hospital trial

Belgrade (AFP) - Two Armenians went on trial yesterday accused of killing the Turkish Ambassador to Yugoslavia in March. The trial is being held in the prison hospital because one of the accused was paralysed in the legs when a policeman shot him after the attack.

Army gives up power in Turkey

From Rashi Gardlik Ankara

Marking the end of more than three years of military rule, President Kenan Evren urged the Turks yesterday to "heed the lessons of the past while taking courageous and resolute steps into the future in unity".

In a televised speech on the occasion of the formal dissolution of the National Security Council which has ruled the country since the Army coup in September 1980, President Evren noted that by taking power the armed forces "had once more spoiled external and internal plots for the dismemberment of the country".

He said the National Security Council, in which he had presided over the commanders of the armed services, had fulfilled all its promises "despite the unceasing efforts of its enemies to undermine its work and pressures from abroad bordering on interference with the country's domestic affairs".

Twin blow for Lévesque

From John Best, Ottawa

The ruling separatist party in Quebec has lost another two by-elections. The Parti Québécois has now suffered 18 successive by-election defeats since winning power seven years ago.

The Liberals, led by Mr Robert Bourassa, took Jonquière, and easily managed to hold on to Mégantic Compton on Monday's voting. Both the winning candidates were women.

The by-elections were widely considered to be a test of the popularity of an economic recovery programme recently announced by Mr René Lévesque, the Quebec Premier.

The Parti Québécois now has 72 seats in the 122-seat provincial legislature; the Liberals 47, Independents 2, and there is one vacancy.

The loss of Jonquière, located in the Saguenay River country, was particularly bitter for Mr Lévesque as it had long been a stronghold for his party.

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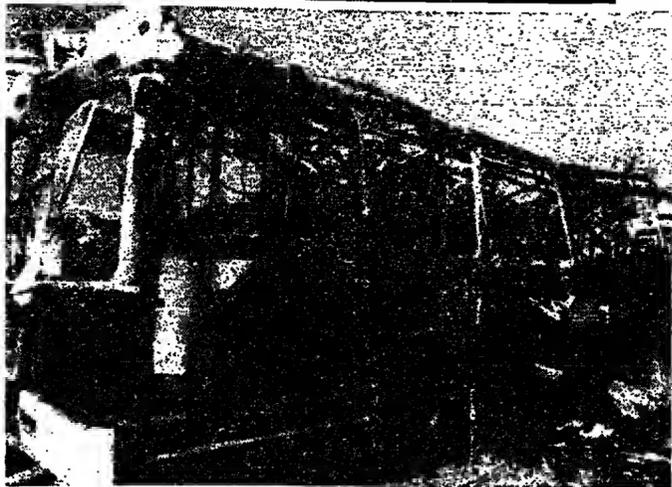
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كذا من الأصل

The Lebanon crisis: Low-key response in Damascus; European worries grow

Syria wants to cool tension despite shooting down drones

From Robert Fisk, Damascus
Despite shooting down two pilotless Israeli reconnaissance aircraft yesterday, the Syrians appear to want to set limits to the propaganda victory which they feel they scored on Sunday when their troops destroyed two American naval jets during US air raids on Syrian positions in Lebanon.



Aftermath: Israeli experts examining the wreckage of a bus blown up by a bomb in Jerusalem with the loss of four lives.

When Syrian anti-aircraft missiles shot down the two Israeli drones yesterday, the news was immediately broadcast by the official Syrian news agency Sana, which claimed it to be another example of Syria's preparedness in the face of "Israeli-American aggression."

Reelection risks for Reagan

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington
There is growing concern in the White House about the impact that America's expanding role in the Lebanese conflict could have on President Reagan's reelection prospects next year - assuming he seeks a second term.

Luce cuts short his Gulf visit and Italy rethinks role

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent
Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, cut short his visit to the Gulf and rushed back to London last night because of the situation in Lebanon.

Argentine junta dissolves itself

From Douglas Tweeddale, Buenos Aires
The three-man junta which headed Argentina's military government has ordered its own dissolution, putting an end to more than seven years of unpopular military government and paving the way for an elected civilian Government due to take office on Saturday.

Slander writs fly over press leak in Lambsdorff case

From Michael Binyon, Bonn
A new twist was added to the Lambsdorff affair yesterday, when the Cologne public prosecutor sued the acting secretary of the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union (CSU) for slander after his criticisms of the way the case against the Minister of Economics was leaked to the press.

Five killed in school bus crash

Vitry-le-Francois, France (AP) - Five French schoolchildren were killed, and 10 people injured, five of them seriously, when a school bus crashed off the icy Paris-Strasbourg road in eastern France yesterday.

Shuttle clank

Houston (AFP) - The flight of the Columbia space shuttle carrying the European space lab was officially prolonged for an extra day despite a bizarre but apparently innocuous clanking heard on board. It will touch down at the Southern California Air Base tomorrow morning, about 110 miles east of Paris.

Wider victory

Caracas (AP) - Senator Jaime Lusinchi, who won a landslide presidential victory also earned a comfortable majority in the Venezuelan Congress. Of 42 senators elected on Sunday, Senator Lusinchi's party won at least 30 seats, and in the House of Representatives he won more than 100 of the approximately 200 seats.

Nuns ejected

Tequeigalpa (Reuter) - Honduras police in helicopters and cars surrounded an Air Florida plane which landed with 68 American nuns and other churchwomen on board and forced it to fly back to the United States. The women were to take part in "peace vigils" on the border with Nicaragua.

Manila death squad fear

From Keith Dalton, Manila
Claims by Manila's Muslim leaders that a police death squad has killed a number of Muslims in retaliation for the recent indiscriminate murder of nine policemen are being investigated.

Gift

Mr Rumsfeld: Looking for a diplomatic solution.
The advisers hope the show of force by the US may finally make Syria seriously consider withdrawing its troops. But they also recognize that the more active role on which the Reagan Administration has embarked contains many risks and could, as in Vietnam, inexorably produce a steadily-expanding US military commitment in the region.

Manila death squad fear

Separate inquiries were promised by city council and police officials after 2,000 Muslims marched to the Manila town hall on Monday to protest against the alleged killing of 20 Muslims in the past two months. These deaths appear to be in direct retaliation for the murder since October of nine police, soldiers and security guards whose 45 pistols were stolen after they were shot, Mr Salipada Pendatun, a former Senator said.

Argentine junta dissolves itself

The three-man junta which headed Argentina's military government has ordered its own dissolution, putting an end to more than seven years of unpopular military government and paving the way for an elected civilian Government due to take office on Saturday.

Manila death squad fear

Separate inquiries were promised by city council and police officials after 2,000 Muslims marched to the Manila town hall on Monday to protest against the alleged killing of 20 Muslims in the past two months.

Advertisement for various Christmas gifts including Postman Pat Collection, Philatelic Gift Vouchers, and Tuff Boxes.

Large advertisement for the Post Office with the headline 'This Christmas get more out of your post office when you buy your stamps.' and a list of available products.

The Athens summit: Britain resists pressure on the budget and puts the ball in MEPs' court

EEC faces cash crisis after total failure to agree on anything

From Ian Murray, Athens

With the total failure of the Athens summit to agree on anything, the Community has to prepare for the fact that it will run out of money between July and September of next year.

If nothing can be agreed before then on how to reduce farm spending - and the signs are not good - then only a miraculous conjunction of bad weather, a collapsing dollar and a very bad world harvest could eke out the community budget until the end of the year.

But that is the best possible scenario. It assumes that the European Parliament does not carry out its threat next week to freeze the EEC budget for next year precisely because the Athens summit failed to relaunch the "community of the second generation", which MEPs want.

Parliament meets to vote on this on Thursday next week. Its members have been put under intense pressure in recent days by government and political parties in their own countries to make sure the budget does get passed.

But in this matter Parliament tends to have a will of its own, and with the direct elections to Europe looming next June, it might well decide

that the time has come to make an impression.

It would not be a very deep impression. If it froze the budget then, member states would pay and receive money in monthly instalments of the 1983 total. This would be only about £100m a month less than if Parliament did not block the budget.

On these grounds MEPs might decide instead not to freeze the whole budget, but simply to block the £457m rebate which Britain was promised during the Stuttgart European summit in June.

There is no question at this stage, however, of Britain withholding its payments to the Community, if that money is not paid over.

Britain wants and expects to receive the cash before the end of its financial year on March 31. Providing Parliament releases it before then, there would be no problem. Even after that Mrs Margaret Thatcher is likely to press for a new deal with higher compensation rather than stop the money. If she blocked payments it would merely accelerate the financial crisis Britain confidently expects will happen anyway, and the tactic would not make a difficult negotiating position any easier.

Parliament's attitude is therefore not causing anything like as much concern as the fact that the Community just cannot summon up the ability to reach decisions. As long as Mrs Thatcher insists on saving money on farm spending and other countries insist on stopping her, the blockage is total.

In its proposals last June the Commission put forward a package of measures which would have saved about £1,560m. Britain thought this was not really enough, but the sum total of the savings proposed at the Athens summit came to scarcely £600m.

In preparing its budget for next year, the Commission assumed that its package of savings proposals - which included the idea of a £500m tax on oils and fats - would actually be agreed at Athens. That means that the hopelessly stretched 1984 budget is bound to be short of £1,560m on present estimates.

If farm spending goes on rising at anything like the 30 per cent rate it did this year, then these estimates will begin to look wildly optimistic. Early reports of grain planting in the United States add to the gloom. These show that American farmers are planting our far more land this year than last, which will inevitably add to the world glut and push up the already high cost of export restitutions to EEC farmers.

All these factors will start to come to a head in late summer. It is then that Britain expects the Community will be on the brink of the crisis brought about by failure at Athens. At that point the legally due payments to farmers will exceed the amount of money coming into the Community coffers. It will be possible to go on paying them some, but not all, of what they are supposed to receive.

Two other factors will add to this pressure. One is the fact that the Commission has already "mortgaged" part of next year's budget in withholding some 1983 payments in order to split out this year's budget. That means that this money will have to be found next month, depriving 1984 of another £250m.

The second factor is that annual price fixing has yet to add its inevitable cost to the package.

Leading article, page 17

Mrs Thatcher asked to withhold payments

By Patricia Clough

Britain should be expected to contribute even more to Brussels "at a time when they are plainly not prepared to put their own expenditure house in order ... there is no reason why we should continue to be paymaster of Europe".

Dr David Owen, the Social Democrat leader, asked Mrs Thatcher to stand firm. She had a crucial negotiation lever in her ability to block an increase in the VAT-linked dues to the EEC, he told the *Times*. "There is no alternative but to peg away and hope a formula can be found which is acceptable to us. We must take no provocative action - let others do that if they want to."

Mr Robin Cook, the Labour spokesman on European affairs, said it was "preposterous" that



Best foot forward: Mrs Thatcher arriving for the Athens EEC summit's last session.

Summit runs out of time in Cyprus

From Mario Modiano Athens

The breakdown of the European Community summit has seriously inhibited action on the Cyprus crisis. It left little time for top-level Greek-British consultations and it stopped the Ten from endorsing a condemnation of the Turkish-Cypriot secession.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, who chaired the summit, were too tired and too concerned to discuss in detail Britain's proposal for tripartite consultations of the three guarantors of Cypriot independence: Britain, Greece and Turkey.

They did manage, however, to snatch a few minutes from their last working dinner for Mrs Thatcher to realize that Mr Papandreu wished to reflect further on the merits of sitting at the same table with Turkey, the only country to have recognized the self-styled Turkish-Cypriot state.

Troops on alert as Solidarity orders peaceful protests

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

The solidarity underground leadership has called for peaceful demonstrations throughout Poland next week, urging workers to march from their factories to town centres to commemorate those killed in the price protests of 1970 and in the first days of martial law two years ago.

The appeal comes at a time of remarkably intense security preparations - by the police and the Army - ahead of the official increases in food prices due in January.

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, in his capacity as Chief of the National Defence Committee, has ordered a mobilization to check the defence preparedness of the Army. In towns and villages troops have already begun to check transport, communications and supply services. Officers have been visiting factories again, for the first time since the lifting of martial law last July.

Meanwhile, policemen are stopping cars within cities and go approach roads, checking engine numbers for stolen vehicles and searching boots.

The official explanation is that they are on an anti-crime alert but it is clear that the search is on for underground activists. A communiqué in the press said that "the operation involves an intensive search for criminals and suspected criminals currently in hiding."

Mr Jerzy Urban, the Government spokesman, said yesterday that the military dragnet was prompted by the deteriorating international situation.

The underground leadership, which issued their appeal in the latest issue of the clandestine Warsaw weekly *Tygodnik Mazowiecki*, said the demonstrations should be held on December 16, the day when workers were shot in Gdansk in 1970 and the day, too, when miners were shot in the Wujek colliery in 1981.

"We will honour the memory of the dead with symbols of mourning and we shall show our will to fight by organizing peaceful demonstrations in the whole country. We shall leave our factories together and make marches, demonstrations and gatherings in the town centres. The responsibility for spoiling the peaceful character will be solely that of the authorities."

Air disaster families win first round

By William Norris

The families of nine members of Swansea Skydiving Club who died in a United States Army helicopter crash at Mannheim, West Germany, in September last year, have won the first stage of their legal battle for compensation.

A federal district court in Philadelphia has ruled that Boeing, the manufacturer of the helicopter, was responsible for the crash and liable for damages. Boeing had denied liability, claiming the machine was built to army specifications.

The helicopter, a twin-rotor Chinook, had been taking part in an air show when a rotor transmission failed. All 46 people on board, including skydivers from France, Britain and West Germany, were killed. Boeing is to appeal and it may be many months before compensation is paid. If the appeal fails, individual damage hearings will be held, in which awards will be unlimited.

Walk leads to discovery of ransom

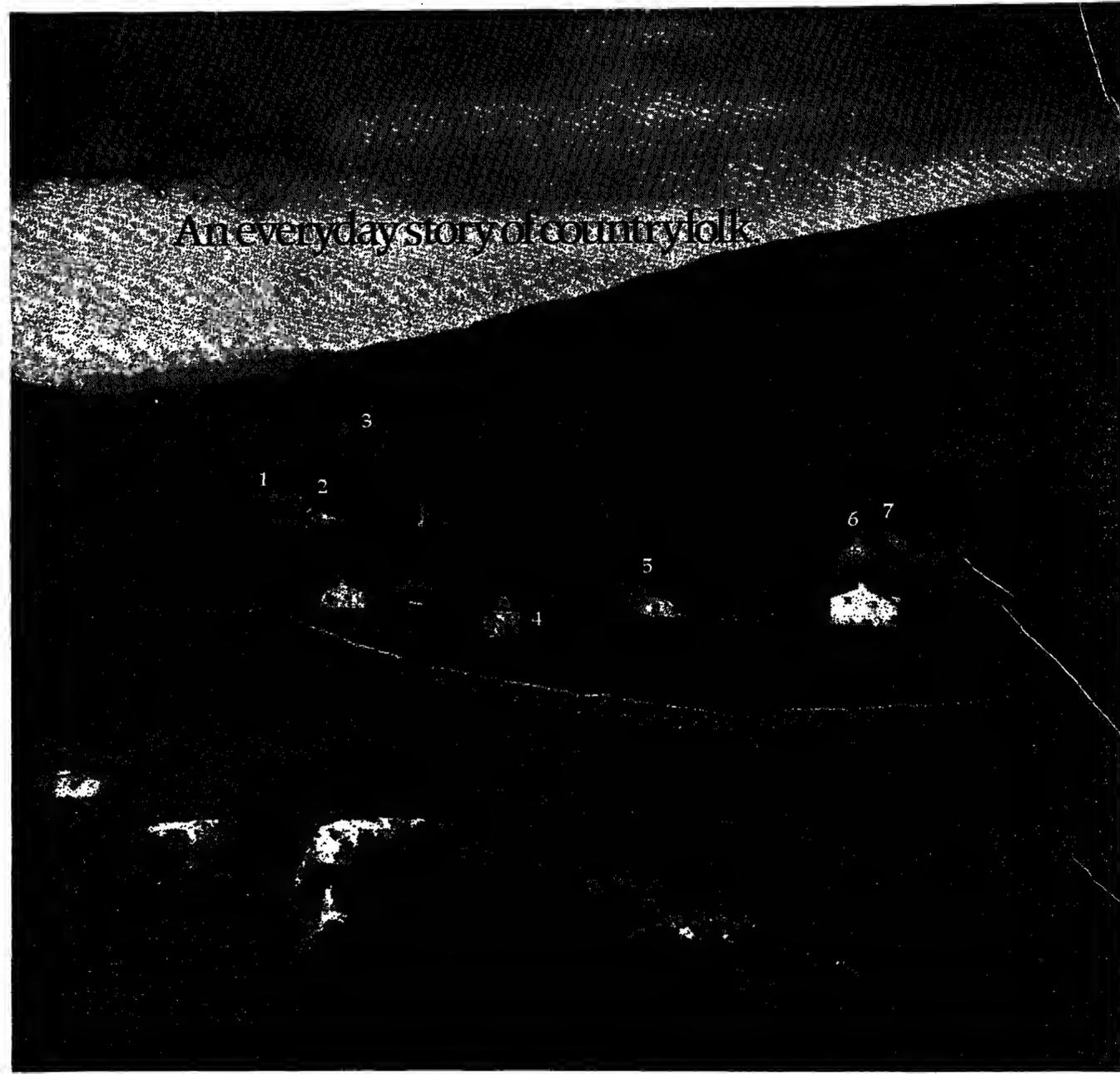
Zeist, Holland (AP) - A walk in the woods by two nature lovers has enabled the authorities to recover the bulk of the ransom paid in the kidnapping of Mr Freddie Heineken, the brewery magnate, police disclosed yesterday.

Police uncovered the money on Monday, buried about a foot deep in a wooded area near this central Dutch city.

The authorities have withheld information on the actual ransom amount for fear that it might set some sort of target in future kidnappings. But Dutch television and newspapers have widely reported that between 30m and 35m guilders (£7m to £8m) was paid on November 28 as the price of freedom for Mr Heineken and his chauffeur.

The two were rescued unharmed in a police raid two days later.

Police sent 50 officers to search the woods after the two strollers stumbled across part of the loot, a plastic bag containing 200 £100 bills.



An everyday story of countryfolk

1. Since the village bus service was axed, young Jack Norris has had to leave his home and friends in order to live nearer his job, 12 miles away. It's a shame the way the old place keeps losing so many of its young people.
2. The village bus service was so handy for Mrs. Payne. It meant that whatever she couldn't buy in the village, she could always get in the next town. Now there's no bus, she's got a problem. Not to mention a 3 mile walk. Because in common with 70% of British women, Mrs. Payne does not have a driving licence.
3. Like a lot of young people today, Alan Murphy can't get a job. And now, he doesn't even have the means to go after one, because he's got no bus service either. No bus. No job. No hope. Alan is finding village life more and more frustrating...
4. Mrs. Sarah Smith (68 last birthday) used to rely on the village bus to take her to the doctor's surgery. Now the bus service has gone, she either has to beg a lift or take a six mile hike. It seems that when you live in the country, you have to be fit to be ill.
5. Ted Armitage hasn't been on a bus in years. Hasn't needed to with the car. But he's far from happy about the effect the lack of a bus service is having on the village. Ted runs the local shop - and it's not good for business the way people keep packing up and leaving. And then there's his old ma. She used to rely on the bus a lot. Now she's going to be relying an awful lot more on Ted and his car.
6. It's not little Jane Harding's fault that her new secondary school is 2½ miles away from the village. But it's her problem. Because Jane's parents can't afford to run a car and the bus that took her to school has run its last journey. Now she has to bike it. And that's not much fun in the winter.
7. Tracy Cole is 17 and she's had it with village life. There was never much to do there anyway, but now the bus service has gone, she and her mates feel marooned. Never mind what her parents say, she's off to the bright lights and the big city just as soon as her bags are packed.

These stories represent the kind of problems faced by today's countryfolk. What's to be done to help them? This was one of the topics discussed by a wide range of community interests at a recent Convention in London. We'll be pleased to send you a complimentary copy of the Convention Report in exchange for the coupon.

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A CAT'S EYE VIEW OF HISTORY



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Esso are investing £380 million in a dual site petrochemical complex at Mossmorran in Scotland—one of Europe's biggest construction projects.

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Pretoria special constable given death sentence for murder

From Michael Hornsby, Windhoek

A former member of the Koevoet, a special South African counter-insurgency unit, was sentenced to death yesterday in the Windhoek Supreme Court for the murder of an Ovambo civilian in northern Namibia last January.

It is the first time that a member of the unit, whose Afrikaans name means "crowbar" and accurately reflects its reputation for brutality, has been sentenced to death, though many others have been accused of torturing and killing innocent civilians.

The man, Jonas Paulus, aged 23, was sentenced in addition to an effective 21 years in prison on related charges of attempted murder, rape and armed robbery. A colleague, Mathews Paulus, aged 22, who was with him when the crimes were committed, was given an effective prison term of 12 years for attempted murder, rape and armed robbery.

Both men were members of Koevoet when they visited several kraals in the northern Ovambo area which borders Angola "in search of money and girls". Jonas Paulus shot dead a villager who refused to give him money and several days later threw a grenade at police when they tried to arrest him.

Hawke to reinstate minister in leak case

From Tony Dahoodin, Melbourne

Mr Mick Young, the former Special Minister for State, who resigned in July after it was revealed that he leaked details of the Cabinet decision to expel a Russian diplomat, is expected to return to the Labour Ministry in the New Year, Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, indicated yesterday.

Mr Hawke was speaking in Parliament after a report by a Royal Commission headed by Mr Justice Hope into Australia's security organizations and the relationship between Mr David Combe, a former Labour Party Nationalist Secretary and now a Canberra lobbyist, and Mr Valery Ivanov, a First Secretary at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra. Mr Ivanov was expelled in May accused of being a KGB agent. Later it was disclosed that he had cultivated a relationship with Mr Combe.

The Royal Commission found that Mr Young acted improperly and without authorization when he disclosed the expulsion decision to Mr Eric Walsh, a Canberra lobbyist. There was no evidence that national security was damaged although it could have been.

Mr Hawke said that Mr Young would be given the opportunity of returning to the Government by the time Parliament resumed in February. The Prime Minister's statement brought a storm of protest from the opposition.



Love song: Mick Jagger serenades his girl friend Jerrilynn Hall under a palm tree in St Peter, Barbados. There are wedding rumours.

Drought ends but thousands die

Nation stricken by hunger

MOZAMBIQUE Part 3

In his concluding article on Mozambique Stephen Taylor reports the failure of the Frelimo Government's agriculture policy and its controversial resettlement programme.

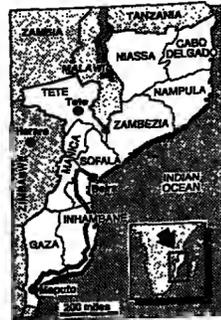
The rains which have fallen over much of Mozambique in the past few months appeared to signal the end of its worst known drought. But they came too late for thousands of peasants dying because emergency aid is not reaching them in time.

Relief workers who have visited settlements at which drought victims have gathered are comparing the level of malnutrition to that in Biafra and Ethiopia.

About 600,000 people are critically affected in the provinces of Gaza, Inhambane, Manica and Sofala are also seriously affected. Everywhere in Mozambique people are hungry.

The areas of worst suffering are those in which rebels of the Mozambique Resistance Movement are most active. The drought's disaster has been directly compounded by the guerrilla war, which until recently has also obscured the extent of the problem.

Although the Frelimo Government claims that the main highway running north from Maputo to Beira has been rendered safe for traffic, about 80 per cent of food aid is being distributed from the sea to the refugee settlements which have sprung up within reach of the 1,900 mile coastline. The guerrillas, meanwhile, are making distribution impossible in much of the interior.



To a disastrous decline in production of cashew nuts, which, along with fish, is Mozambique's principal export. A serious blight and an agricultural policy which the Government acknowledges as having been mistaken are also responsible for the decline in

30,000 tonnes in 1975 to an estimated 5,000 tonnes this year.

The about-turn on policy came at the Frelimo party congress earlier this year when, according to Senator Manuel Aranda da Silva, the Minister of Internal Trade, it was recognized that producers should be given a financial incentive. Similarly, the cooperative farm system is starting to give way to a system based around family agriculture.

The capacity to admit error, a quality of the Frelimo leadership which is widely admired, does not, however, extend to perhaps the most controversial of recent internal policy innovations, the so-called "Operation Production".

According to informed sources, more than 30,000 urban dwellers have been moved - in the main forcibly - from Maputo and other cities on the grounds that they are unemployed and parasites.

The majority have been sent to the northern provinces of Niassa and Cabo Delgado, where the guerrillas are least active and unlikely to disrupt agricultural production.

The problem of overcrowding in Mozambique's cities is serious with populations vastly outstripping the ability of a Marxist bureaucracy to provide employment. Those who live on the fringe include prostitutes and black marketeers.

Such prime targets for resettlement were identified by a process which included secret denunciations and led to widespread abuse.

Concluded

Islamic powers told of their failures

From Michael Hamlyn, Dhaka

Islamic foreign ministers were treated to a devastatingly frank analysis of the failures of the Islamic movement when they met for the ceremonial inauguration of their conference here yesterday.

Lieutenant-General Ershad, the chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, welcoming the delegates, said: "Honesty demands that we face up to our failures and shortcomings".

"The general, who faces a good deal of trouble from opposition politicians angry at his terms for restoring democracy to Bangladesh, listed the failures of the Islamic powers.

"How much closer are we today to liberating the occupied territories and the Holy City of Jerusalem?" he asked the delegates from 31 countries and the PLO representatives of Palestine. "How many Muslim lives have been tragically lost in the cities of Beirut and Tripoli?"

He also listed the war between Iran and Iraq, the continued occupation of

Afghanistan, the turmoil in Chad and the denial of the Turkish Cypriot "Rightful claim to a bi-zonal federal state".

He asked what the Islamic world had done to right these wrongs and answered "We have made imposing speeches and adopted lofty resolutions."

The general, sporting a dark blue pinstriped suit in place of his more usual khaki, said: "Can the Islamic world do no more? The answer, for there is an answer, is painfully visible. Our helplessness and ineffectiveness is the direct result of our internal conflicts and disputes."

He also castigated the slow progress in different areas of joint cooperation - economic, educational and cultural.

The delegates, meeting in the concrete splendour of Bangladesh's National Assembly, built by an American architect to resemble a medieval castle set among ruins, will be expected to discuss all the subjects General Ershad mentioned.

Indian Ocean nations draft treaty on coasts

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Legal experts from eight East African countries with coasts on the Indian Ocean met here yesterday to draw up a draft treaty to protect their coastal areas from marine pollution and to preserve marine life.

Those representing the north to Mozambique and Madagascar in the south, have already agreed to cooperate in a treaty to protect the waters of the western section of the Indian Ocean, on the lines of a treaty already in force in the Mediterranean.

The Nairobi-based United Nations Environment Programme (Unep) is sponsoring the meeting. The experts will concentrate on legal measures to control pollution from land-based sources - such as discharge from rivers and sewage from coastal towns - as well as oil spills from tankers travelling along the East African coast.

Belgium acts to halt trade in ivory and fur

By Tony Samstag

Belgium is to ratify an international convention on traffic in wildlife on January 1, thus closing what the World Wildlife Fund describes as "the major conduit of Europe's trade in rare and endangered species".

Sabena Airline records show ivory shipments during the past 10 years "represent the deaths of up to 40,000 elephants". In the past five years, imports of furs and wild animals were worth £15m.

BRUSSELS: Sabena has again come under attack for its role in the ivory trade, with the accusation that it has wrongfully been transporting tusks from Burundi (AFP reports).

The European Environment Bureau has joined the World Wildlife Fund in asking the airline to halt the carriage of unfashioned ivory under conditions contrary to the Washington Convention on endangered species.

Korean pleads guilty in Burma bomb trial

Rangoon (AP) - A North Korean army officer pleaded guilty yesterday to charges of murdering 21 people in the bomb attack against South Korean leaders in Rangoon's Martyr's Mausoleum on October 1.

Captain Kang Min Chul nodded after each of the charges was read out in the Rangoon division court - two murder charges, one of attempted murder and the fourth for illegal arms possession.

A second defendant, Major Zia Mo, refused to speak or make any gesture when charges against him were read. Under Burmese criminal procedure, the accused does not have to enter a plea.

The court chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel Maung Mauog, asked prosecution and defence lawyers to present their final arguments in writing before Friday, when the court will pass sentence.

The maximum penalty for murder is death, attempted murder is punishable by life imprisonment and illegal possession of arms by 10 years in prison.

The attack killed 17 South

Korean officials and four Burmese. Among the dead were four South Korean Cabinet ministers and other senior officials.

After the court chairman read the judgment, Kang was asked to stand and was charged with premeditated murder. The charge was translated into English, then Korean. Kang hesitated and nodded, which was regarded as a guilty plea.

He appeared shaken, and he swayed. The chairman asked him to sit while the other charges were read.

The 29-year-old officer also pleaded guilty to wounding three pursuing policemen, the murder of three soldiers when he exploded a hand grenade in an apparent suicide attempt and illegal possession of a pistol with a silencer.

Yesterday's session began with the court chairman saying the evidence clearly showed that Major-General Kang Chang of the North Korean Army, ordered Zin Kang and a third officer, Sin Ki Chol, to go to Burma to assassinate President Chun Doo-hwan, who was on a visit.

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THE ARTS

The fall and rise of 'Star'



James Mason as Norman Maine: "Hollywood was not in favour of the picture"

"For me the whole thing was a great treat. When I first arrived in Hollywood I had put myself at a great disadvantage, because I didn't do the right things. At that time anyone with career ambitions had to sign up for a long-term contract with one of the studios. It was the only way you got a lift and the sort of vehicles on which a career is built up. But I didn't like the idea of a long-term contract, because it meant that somebody else would have to make my decisions for me.

"So I went freelance. I had done a couple of half decent pictures at 20th Century, but nothing else very promising. So that to be offered a film like *A Star is Born* was something special. I had heard that they were offering it to other people properly established people. They offered it to Bogey, for instance, and to Cary Grant, who had actually got to the point of signing in at the readings with Judy.

"So it was very nice for me to get it. It was fun from the start. I thought Moss Hart's script was extremely good, and I had the greatest possible faith in Cukor, though it was the only time I ever worked with him. I approved wholeheartedly of all the cast, and I had an enormous admiration, sort of love, for Judy Garland already before we started.

"She was marvellous to work with. Of course she had her difficulties. She had got into this strange way of life when she

In 1954, George Cukor directed Judy Garland and James Mason in *A Star is Born* - a musical version of a story that had been twice filmed before: in 1932 by Cukor himself, as *What Price Hollywood?*, and in 1937 by William Wellman. The film had a spectacular Hollywood premiere on September 29, 1954, but a few weeks later Warner Brothers recalled the prints, to cut them from 3 hours to 150 minutes. Two years ago, with the support of the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and of Warner Brothers, Ronald Haver began the search for such fragments of the cut portions as might have survived, scat-

tered in the film vaults. After many months he had collected enough to reconstitute a version approximating to Cukor's original. Cukor himself died the day before its first screening, which Sheridan Morley described on this page a few months ago. The restored version of *A Star is Born* has just opened at the Gate, Notting Hill, and other cinemas. James Mason, who plays Norman Maine, a Hollywood star whose career is on the wane at the same time as Esther Blodgett (Garland) is rising to the top, recalls his experiences in making the film, in an interview with David Robinson

was a kid at MGM. Witnesses testify that it was then she got into the habit of uppers and downers, with the encouragement of the top brass at MGM. They wanted to get the most out of her, so they didn't take it amiss if she took a little pick-me-up in the morning and sleeping pills at night. It became a habit and in course of time got worse.

"But on the set she was wonderful, easy. She didn't put in as many hours as a less talented woman would have done. There were mornings when she wasn't fit to work until about eleven o'clock because she'd taken too many sleeping pills or something. When she woke up, though, she was great - marvellous, enthusiastic, thoroughly professional, a

joy to work with. Of course Cukor was sometimes exasperated when she didn't show up until late in the morning - after all he had to cope with Jack Warner as well, and was desperate to keep things going.

"The mood of Hollywood was not in favour of the picture. They shook their heads over Judy, who hadn't managed to make a film for four years since MGM dropped her contract: she had been 'suspended' from both *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Royal Wedding* for not showing up.

"The mood of Hollywood was not in favour of the picture. They shook their heads over Judy, who hadn't managed to make a film for four years since MGM dropped her contract: she had been 'suspended' from both *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Royal Wedding* for not showing up. That was the mood of Hollywood. There was no enthusiasm either at Warners or in the

press: the dismal history of the film after it was finished was these circumstances hardly surprising.

"We had a curious beginning with the film, because finally I was the one who held up that start. Not Judy. I got an inner carembalance, which makes you dizzy; you stagger like a drunken man. I had to stay in bed for a week, and when I began work I was still a little foggy - and not helped by the way that George would talk, talk, talk; that made you dizzy. Anyway, I was able to use my dizziness to my advantage.

"Encouraged by Hoyningen-Huene, who was engaged as special colour adviser on the film, George had a funny idea of relating the theme of any scene he was trying to do to the work of a particular artist-painter, to achieve visual atmosphere. For this particular scene he had decided on Fuseli: he wanted to capture the feeling of one of Fuseli's nightmare paintings. I was not one of the idea until I was going down a corridor and met a girl most peculiarly painted and got up. I stopped her and said: 'Excuse me, what are you playing?' And she said: 'Ah... I play a curtain.' It was revealed that Cukor was going to mix these peculiarly painted girls with the curtains, so that they could move as if in a breeze. I would think in my drunken haze that I saw a girl, and then... 'Ah, it's just a curtain.' That was the idea, anyway. It didn't work. He abandoned it. He didn't have many ideas like that though, not on this picture.

"He was splendid to work with. Of course he had done most of his best work earlier, at MGM; afterwards it was not so interesting for him. But he was always shrewd enough to surround himself with very good technical advisers. The cameraman, Sam Leavitt, had not done anything very important before, but Cukor had formed the relationship with Hoyningen-Huene.

"Seeing the film again, too, I realize how important was the contribution of Gene Allen as the production designer. I think his contribution was more important than Hoyningen-Huene's. This was the first time that anyone had used CinemaScope imaginatively. Generally

it had been used only for big things like *The Robe*. Nicholas Ray in *Rebel Without a Cause* and Kazan with *East of Eden* had opened it up; and it had suited the underwater scenes in another film I did at this time. Richard Fleischer's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*; but this was the first time it had been used really intelligently.

"My own work on the film was finished, of course, as soon as there were no more dialogue scenes required. The scenes where I was involved with music had already been done. So at that point they stopped production and took a break to prepare the big, marathon numbers 'Born in a Trunk' and 'Lose that Long Face'.

The latter number was one of the cuts made by Warners. I didn't expect them to do anything as big as 'Born in a Trunk'. I was always poking my nose into other peoples' business and trying to solve their problems for them, and I knew that Jack Warner was getting rather browned off with the slow progress and mounting cost of the film. So I thought the best thing to do would be to call up Louis B. Mayer and see if he had some old numbers with Judy left over that they hadn't used in her films, and do a deal for them. That certainly is what I would have been tempted to do if I'd been in Jack Warner's shoes; so it came as a great surprise when they shot a 15-minute musical sequence.

"When I saw the film finally it had already been truncated; and I was disappointed. I felt the scenes cut from the beginning were among the best - certainly for Judy. She was playing them at a level of comedy, against a stressful situation, and was at her very best.

"Moreover, as it stood, 'Born in a Trunk' seemed a big, uncalled-for thing, quite disproportionate now that the film had been shortened. So I was disappointed; though not disappointed that 'Losing that Long Face' had been dropped. In the full version, of course, you see how it helps that part of the picture; the placing of it actually makes it more dramatic. There are so many things that work better like that; and the public realizes it. Like me, I think the public's reaction to the cut version was one of disappointment although they could not at the time know why.

"Anyway, now we have the full version at last. It's most fun seeing it with an audience. I've done a certain amount of touring around with it - Radio City Music Hall (6,000 people - wonderful), Washington, Dallas, the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, a wonderful art deco theatre beautifully restored. I went to all these shows. It's a sort of charity deal really. I was doing it for and in the interests of the Academy, which is worth supporting. They have a hard time doing the work they want to do, part of which is restoring old films, which is very costly. The Oscar show, whatever you may think of it, makes a great deal of money for them. And that's what it's for: to provide funds for work like this on our picture."

Television



Videostars: John Birt and Caroline Quentin

Howard Shuman, he of the Rock Follies, thinks that the broad issue about television is whether you should send people to sleep or wake them up, which is too broad a definition for me, leaving out both those who do not need television as a stimulant to wakefulness and those for whom it provides a welcome answer to insomnia.

Mr Schuman favours waking people up. His *Videostars*, BBC 1 last night, envisaged the kind of cable TV show he hopes there might be fears there will not be. I reckon his fears are well founded though I do not think it will be a deprivation.

His play covered the fortunes of Channel D, produced as a kind of misfit's TV and run by a manic bunch all well qualified to meet any such demand. There was the kind of television show guaranteed to indulge the appetite for gaping without participating, which television at its worst is best at.

It rampaged through 80 minutes with no trouble, full of fast-forward talk, pop caricature, cynicism, and entertainment. Channel D becomes a raging success resented only by reactionaries who turn out to be corrupt but triumphant. At last the defeated crew is planning a pirate station to broadcast from a plane circling over Pimlico.

It was smart, slick, always on the edge of possibility, exuberantly directed by Colin Bucksey and produced by Kenneth Trodd with strong performances by Tim Curry as the loony presenter, Benedict Taylor, Nicholas Ball and Walter Fall.

Yorkshire's *First Tuesday* went to West Virginia, where men are men and women will not be left on the surface. They go down the coal mines. There are 3,000 women miners in the US and, as Charles Flynn's film showed, they are a formidable breed.

Fifty-year-old Dorothy Keane, the first woman to venture into one Appalachian mine, testified that the men had put her through hell for six months but she had stuck it out and certainly did not seem diminished. Her grandchildren, she said, were ecstatic about her being a miner.

Women miners began to multiply five years ago when the Coal Employment Project took legal action to codify discrimination. Opposition had come not only from men but from their wives, but the newer generation of males are taking female buddies for granted.

This summer one woman died alongside six men in an underground explosion but this has only served to make the women determined to make the mines safer.

The second half of the programme, directed by Peter Gordon, dealt with strippers in the North-East. Stripping is one of the few booming businesses and the big day is Sunday when the men sip their pints and peer or leer while, presumably, their own little women are cooking the lunch. Sub-titles might have helped here and there but it was nicely done.

Dennis Hackett

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حکومتنا من الاصل

THE ARTS

Concerts

Well-balanced

Chiligrinian Quartet Elizabeth Hall

Programming a Beethoven quartet cycle demands considerable skill...

I have not heard this quartet for some years - since before Caba Erdelyi replaced Simon Rowland-Jones as the viola player...

The way the opening of the Adagio in Op 127 rose up from the half-breathed cello pulse...

tone and phrasing was very subtle (the first violin's prelude to the fugato in the opening movement of the Rasmovsky...

Though the sound is rich - sometimes too rich, as when the first violin's crucial change in a repeated phrase from A flat to A in the Op 127 finale was blurred by a slide - there was plenty of fierce attack...

Oddly, the two movements that misfired were the two scherzos: that in Op 127 was sharply outlined but the sections did not hang together...

Nicholas Kenyon

Goldsmiths Choral Union/Wright Festival Hall

The virtues of Brian Wright's approach to Messiah with the Goldsmiths' Choral Union are several...

It brought about a welcome clarity of texture in most of the courses, which were sung with vivacious spirit and sprung rhythms...

Susan Mason displayed a true

contralto, deep and rich, giving strength of feeling to "But who may abide" and making one regret that "He was despised" was shortened to its first section alone...

Adrian Thompson's elegance and style made much of the tenor solos. He affected a curious syllabic stress in referring to "A rod of eye-rod" which came as something of a jolt...

Here again the number was shortened, but not perhaps to its disadvantage. Mr Wright is a shrewd judge of musical character that treads a further balance between period style and musical purpose...

Noel Goodwin

Interview



Richard Alston, left, and John Hubbard discuss the costume for one of the ballerinas in Midsummer

A meeting of landscape and dance

Tonight the Royal Ballet performs two premieres: a new work by David Bintley and Midsummer, choreographed by Richard Alston and designed by John Hubbard...

Before he became a choreographer, Richard Alston was at art school: who can tell whether that has been a factor in his having strong views on how he wants his ballets to look?

So it came about that having been commissioned for the first time by the Royal Ballet, he took advantage of a trip to the country with friends to invite himself to the Dorset home of the painter John Hubbard...

Alston had already chosen the music: Tippett's Fantasia Concertante on a theme of

Corelli. Why that particular score? "Out of all the music I listened to, the Tippett seemed to have the qualities I wanted, most particularly a warmth of feeling in direct contrast to Hindemith's Konzertramusik...

Having made that decision, all sorts of logistical factors confirmed it. For one thing, I did not want to take on anything too extended. I think perhaps that when I made The Kingdom of Pagodas in Copenhagen last year I attempted too much, working with a classical ballet company for the first time...

The ballet begins and ends with pas de deux, in between which the texture is more complex. There is a section for the men, for instance, in which each in turn comes to the front for a solo while the other five keep a sort of ground-bass going behind. The sections flow swiftly one into the other, reflecting the pace and continuity of the music.

Howard Williams (new to ballet), who is preparing Tippett's Knot Garden for the Opera Factory next year, and Tippett, who has been enthusiastic and supportive, will be at the premiere of Midsummer.

Listening to the music gave Alston such a strong feeling of landscape that I thought of asking a landscape painter to design it, and I felt that John Hubbard's painting in particular reflected the multi-layered texture of the string orchestra.

Alston and Hubbard had been introduced at Sadler's Wells during one of Ballet Rambert's seasons when Alston's ballets were being given, but they did not really know one another, although each knew and liked the other's work.

I started by listening to the music, and I developed an idea which I prepared in four different versions. I then showed them to Richard and he said no, that was not what he had in mind at all. He did not want an "English landscape" look, but something hotter and more energetic.

Hubbard thereupon took up the questioning: "You told me it was the first time you had ever had the decor of one of your ballets six months before the premiere. Did it affect your choreography to know what kind of background it would be seen against?"

In one sense no, because the music, the ballet comes from the music,

but I could have treated that music more sharply. I think that the flow of your design, seeping right across the back of the stage, made me use a softer, more fluid kind of music in the arms and shoulders, for instance.

A black and white photograph of the model for the decor reveals it to be a sweeping abstract pattern. Alston adds that it is also full of brilliant colour. He made the somewhat reluctant Hubbard design the costumes, but by mutual agreement they have been kept simple.

The materials are simple too. "I hate the shiny lycra tights that so many people use nowadays", Alston explains. "It seems to me that they dehumanize the dancers, turn them into glossy objects. I would rather see people who look like people on the stage."

He has picked a young cast and speaks enthusiastically about them, and about how hard the company works, noting that while his and David Bintley's new ballets were in preparation, they also put on Swan Lake, Manon and three mixed bills, all with several casts. The reverse of this is that his first cast will perform Midsummer only four times this month, and a second cast just once, and then have to wait until the 1984-5 season before it can possibly be scheduled again.

With Rambert, four performances of a work represents one week, and then they do it again each week through the tour. However, Alston recognizes that the scarcity of performances at Covent Garden makes it all the more important that the ballet is absolutely right by the opening. "Well, the score is wonderful, the design strong and the dancers excellent, so if anything is wrong, the fault can only be mine."

Opera in New York Sacrificing all

Ernani Metropolitan Opera

Verdi's fifth opera, Ernani, is a forward-looking work which, in its concision, tunefulness and reliance on what Gabriele Baldini has termed an "abstract libretto" of outsized emotions, floating as if in the void and generating sparks through contact with each other, fore-shadows the very similar, but much better coordinated, features of Il trovatore.

Trovatore was written, so it was said, for the four greatest voices in the world, almost the same goes for Ernani. Perhaps this is why the Metropolitan Opera has kept it on the fringes of its repertory since the Big days (though its most powerful attribute was always the dominating portrayal of the king, Carlo, by Leonard Warren). The Merli (or demerit, depending on your point of view) of the new production of Ernani at the Met is that it chose to sacrifice everything to a concert in costume.

The sets and production were by Pier Luigi Samaritani, whose baroque paintings-brought-to-life of dusky colours, rich velvet and sweeping staircases served as a plush jewel box for the singers, who found themselves, with the chorus, posed picturesquely rather than staged, and posed moreover close to the welcoming audience.

Ernani entered "suddenly" by strolling in from the wings: the Silva conspiracy of at least 50 armed men against Carlo was instantly apparent by the appearance of five or six soldiers. The stage-pictures, however, were striking.

It was all in the voices. As Ernani, Luciano Pavarotti was in excellent voice in a role that suits him in its range and in its lyric-spinto character. In this honour, James Levine interploded the rather banal but undoubtedly effective Act II grand aria "Odo il voto" (which Verdi wrote for the tenor Ivanoff). The bandit chorus was

kept discreetly off-stage until the cabaleita. Pavarotti's restrained movements and his clear tenor made for a strong Ernani, at its most affecting in the final Inno. Though the voice now lacks colour and tends to close at the very top, Pavarotti deserved his ovation.

Leona Mitchell's Elvira was sung with lovely tone and graceful ease, needing slightly more rhythmic point and temperament, especially for her opening "Ernani, Involami." Ruggiero Raimondi, once again, was an outstanding presence - he is the finest bass in the company His Silva, forceful of voice and musically pliant of phrase, was always a pleasure, though he skewed the story by appearing, not as a white-haired fanatic dotard but as a vigorous, grey-haired elder who could have chewed up both Ernani and Carlo before breakfast.

Sherrill Milnes has not been in good vocal health lately (he cancelled his gala appearance), and in truth his Carlo was not what he could sing at his best. The voice seemed pushed, cloudy at the beginning.

He gathered his forces for his Act III scena and cavatina but, though he did display a ringing top, there was little sense of easy command about the singing.

Early and middle Verdi are James Levine's known weaknesses. He applies his rhythmic verve and at times a sweep (the final act went best), but what is missing is an overall feel for the shape of Verdi on the larger scale, a feel that he has for the works of Wagner, Strauss and, I think, Mozart. Here, the whole dissolves into the "numbers" of the mid-nineteenth century operatic storehouse, and there is a ponderousness which undercuts the emergent quicksilver vitality of Verdi's writing.

But it was a singers' evening, and, as such, hurried by those who want the Met to be, in this centennial year, what it has always prided itself on being, a singers' house.

Patrick J. Smith



Luciano Pavarotti as Ernani: in excellent voice

FRANK JOHNSON'S ELECTION YEAR From the acerbic pen of the irrepresible Times columnist, a sparkling review of the year in Parliament. Robson Books £6.95

John Piper 30 November-22 January Piper is perhaps best known for his romantic landscape painting, but his work in stained glass, ceramics, fabrics and theatre design, now shown together for the first time, fully demonstrates his versatility. Sponsored by Mobil. Admission £1.50 Weekdays 10-5.30 Sundays 2-5.30. Recorded information 01-821 7128. Closed 23-26 December and 1 January. Tate Gallery, Millbank London SW1

London debuts Dynamic contrasts

A rewarding week, introducing two recent prize-winners. It was for the vividness of his characterization, with richly savoured words, that the East German baritone, Olaf Bar (discovered in last summer's Walther Gruener International Lieder Contest) made such an impression. Wolf and Strauss accommodated his strong dynamic contrasts, with one or two over-excitably hard-hit top notes, better than Mendelssohn and Schumann, where suaver tonal gradation and line would sometimes have been welcome. But it was a vibrant voice of true operatic potential.

Congratulations, too, to the John Mills Guitar Competition jury for finding a winner of such musical and technical finesse as the young Swede Mats Bergström. The use of a mellow-toned 11-stringed instrument no doubt contributed to clear, expressive part-playing and rhythmic control in Dowland and Bach. But contemporary music played on a normal guitar found him no less sensitive a spell-binder, not least in five delicately atmospheric new Preludes by Timothy Bowers.

An all-Czech programme won Prague's Dolezal Quartet a warm welcome - and rightly so for such mellow tonal homogeneity and rejection of the merely slick. Unhurried tempo and lyrical charm kept Dvorak's "American" Quartet wholly old-world in spirit, while the scherzo from his Op 105, played as first encore, was a tale of pure joy. Ending with a movement by the early eighteenth-century Mica, they certainly whetted the appetite for further bohemian rarities promised on record.

With a sense of style to underpin an easy command of his instrument, the English violinist, Simon Fischer respected the gravity of Tartini's "Didone abbandonata" Sonata

before travelling chronologically, with ripening tone and strengthening drive, through Beethoven's Op No 3 and Brahms's Sonatasatz to Franck's Sonata in A. Here, with generous keyboard support from Gordon Back, the floodgates opened, every phrase Zigeunerweisen, bringing a happy reconciliation of temperament and good taste.

It was hard to judge the English cellist James Potter to Beethoven's early F major Sonata since Alan Cravill's injudiciously eager piano playing so often swamped him. In Martini's Rossini Variations and the Serenade from Stravinsky's Suite Italienne, balance markedly improved, revealing Mr Potter as a serious-minded musician able to sustain a firm, significant line even if to become fully wooing his tone, like his phrasing, still seems to need some lubrication.

Joan Chissell

St John's, Smith Square was surrounded by an unprecedented security cordon; the orchestra filled most of the church; Her Majesty the Queen Mother was received in what I always thought was the BBC studio cubicle - the trappings of the gala concert which presented the Ulster Orchestra in London for the first time since its colarment made concentration on the music difficult. But one could hear enough among the dignitaries and sold-out audience to hail the success of what had been a most enterprising collaborative venture.

To 1981 the Ulster Orchestra, then a 37-piece ensemble brought together (after its independence from the Northern Ireland Arts Council a year earlier) broadcasting authorities, commercial sponsorship, the Musicians' Union and the local Musicians' Association to establish a larger orchestra.

Byden Thomson, who has directed the orchestra since 1977, had clearly worked wonders to give his new 55-strong orchestra cohesion and character. The sound in St John's (not the ideal place for a large group) was vividly alive, almost rumbustious. In Bax's Tintagel (the players have made an art speciality of his music and that of Hamilton Harty) and Sibelius's First Symphony, the playing had a tremendous sweep and verve.

Nicholas Kenyon

THE JEWEL CROWN

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TONIGHT CAPTAIN ZUNIGA WILL BE STRANGLER.

Walesa: 'We cannot fail to win'

Every morning this year's Nobel Peace Prize laureate takes the local commuter train to the Lenin shipyards in Gdansk where he clocks in, waves cheerily to the security guard and starts work in the electrical repair section. These days he looks a bit tired.

The cold fact is that Lech Walesa is a man without a clearly defined role. His union has been dissolved, the underground opposition has assumed diffuse forms, none of which requires the kind of charismatic leadership that he can offer. The Nobel Prize - which his wife Danusia will collect in Oslo on Saturday - has, however, restored to him the moral authority he needs to speak freely and loudly about the gap between government achievements and the expectations of the Polish people. Politically, he must wait again for the development of a mass protest movement. The Nobel Prize means that however long he has to stand off-stage, sharing Poland's suspended animation, he will not be forgotten.

The following interview was conducted in Gdansk at the end of November by two Polish journalists whose wish is to remain anonymous. It covers Walesa's present position, his relationship with the Polish Government, with Solidarity's underground workers and with the Church, and his expectations for the future of his country's struggle.



"I noticed at one point that the Holy Father looked tired", Walesa said. "I decided to cheer him up."

How do you feel in your role as Nobel Peace Prize laureate?

The prize isn't for me; it's for the non-violent forms of struggle implemented by Solidarity. I told everyone who rang up to congratulate me, "It's all thanks to you. It's your prize." And I really think that it is. Of course, I'm pleased, like everyone, but after all this prize has brought me endless troubles. I have handed the money over to the fund for agriculture, the medals, diplomas and so on will be placed at [the Monastery of St Mary of] Jasna Gora, where everyone can benefit from them.

Don't you think this prize has come a year too late?

Frankly, I didn't expect it even now. But I think it has come at a good time. We were getting a little tired, and this certainly helped. And we now have the conditions to put it to positive use. Of course, the question is not merely one of money, but of being able to communicate our ideas to the whole world. A year ago there was still too much emotion and high feeling to construct a positive programme.

Why did you earmark the money for agriculture [i.e. the church-sponsored funds for individual farmers] and not, for instance, for the underground's activities?

You must understand that the underground represents only one stage in our struggle. But we all of us live off the earth and we all have to feed ourselves. The crisis is getting worse,

and no one can handle it. If we have something to eat, then let the people on top squabble for positions; we'll do our own stuff.

Why have you decided against going in person to accept the prize?

I decided that my wife Danusia should go, along with our eldest son, and Mr Mazowiecki [a Catholic intellectual and adviser to Walesa]. I did so for two reasons. Participating in the ceremony, in a dinner jacket, I would feel a little like a penguin in the knowledge that my friends - my co-laureates - are sitting in prison. And then, Walesa refused re-entry to the country. Walesa in the West, would be much more convenient for the authorities than Walesa here.

Your activity has been compared to that of Gandhi. What do you make of this comparison?

I do not think Gandhi's geopolitical situation was easier.

Are there any differences between you and the TKK [Provisional Co-ordinating Commission] in your assessment of the situation?

I think there are no serious differences between us, which is not to say that we agree on everything. There are some differences, and so there should be. But I repeat, nothing fundamental. We are, after all, all fighting for the same thing, but with different methods.

You have to understand some tactical differences. Someone working underground, like the TKK, cannot

afford to adopt a mild stance. If you have committed yourself to a decisive struggle, you have to be decisive in carrying it through. Softening, looking for mild solutions, should be left to those who are active in the open. Let them tread gently, but the TKK should be firm.

They represent a position that has been reached democratically. As a member of the union, I must sometimes submit to their decisions. I will put forward my own proposals as well, but I shall make sure that no misunderstandings arise between us which might suggest non-existent conflicts.

You may have noticed that after my first meeting with them in April, the statement which was issued was signed only by members of the TKK. But the statement after our meeting, in November, carries my signature too. This is because the situation now is extremely dangerous and unity is required. The government's programme means the impoverishment of society.

In your opinion, should the Solidarity underground come out into the open? I have always maintained that each person should choose the most effective methods of struggle according to his abilities. Each should, in accordance with his own conscience, decide on the way he will choose.

Are you not taking your activities only half-way from fear of imprisonment? I have never been afraid of prison.

Those who know me know also that I have been in prison many times. I am not afraid of it today any more than I was then. But I think that my activities are more effective, and more profitable, if they remain in the open. It's possible that one day I may be able to achieve more by being imprisoned. I'm really not afraid of it.

'I have never been afraid of prison'

Are you able to communicate with the underground leadership of the union?

As you know, I have met them once already. Contrary to appearances, the protection of the security services is not effective. Of course, now, it's more difficult for me, I am better known and under closer surveillance than I was before August [1980], but I still know how to lose them. But seriously, we are fighting for the same thing, so of course we have to discuss and arrange things, and there must be some contact.

You are still unquestionably the leader of Solidarity. But the name of [Zbigniew] Bujak is chanted more and more often at demonstrations. What is your impression of this?

These people had an enormous role to play, because they were responsible for organizing resistance when I was sitting in an internment camp. Hence their great authority. Not only Bujak's, who is in hiding, but also [Wladyslaw] Frasyniuk's, who is in prison. I am not irreplaceable, and I would even be very happy if someone would finally come along and take my place. This year should see the second congress of Solidarity: it was meant to take place biannually. Not only my own successors, but the successors of Bujak and Frasyniuk as well, would certainly have made their appearance there. Naturally they are not visible yet, but they are doing their work.

You have said that more people support us now than during the time of Solidarity. Can we infer from this that more people today are hostile to the regime?

I have never said anything about hostility. I have never used that term. Of course more people support us now than in our best times. You only have to know how to see it. Perhaps it's not so visible at demonstrations. Our society has a very developed political consciousness. It knows that today, when our side offers non-violent forms of protest, and the other side offers only truncheons and prisons, demonstrations are ineffective. We must be able to leave the streets for the factories and to be active there. That was where we won in August, that is where we shall win again. At the same time there are many people on the other side who wish us well and who are already helping us: even some of the police. But we shall not win tomorrow, and there's no use deluding ourselves; we have to get there with the fewest possible losses.

You don't visit various regions of the country in the way that you did when Solidarity was legal. How, then, do you know the mood of the people? As I said before, I do have contacts. People from all over Poland are constantly coming to see me, too many of them, in fact. And we talk. I can't and I don't want to supervise, to direct. Many local initiatives have started up. At the beginning there was some hesitation, but later new people came, and took root. They solve their own problems, because they have to. This is a very good thing: people have to learn to act and make decisions on their own.

What is your attitude to the Church? Does the Church advise you? The Church transcends time, and I would like it to stay that way. Current political matters are not the affair of the Church. But it will advise anyone who listens to its teachings. Even those who go to mass in the course of their duties. The Church doesn't say: do this, do that. It speaks of truth and of dignity, and that is enough.

How would you assess the role of the Church in Poland today, after the delegitimation of Solidarity? My attitude to the Church has not

changed. What has happened is that the Church's obligations to the people have increased. It had to take on responsibility for helping the interned, the imprisoned, and all those in need, and it did this splendidly. Indeed, it continues to do it.

May I ask what you talked of during your last meeting with John Paul II?

A communique was issued on the subject of my meeting with the Holy Father. I can add only one thing to it. I noticed at one point that the Holy Father looked tired, troubled. I decided to cheer him up, since I saw that he wanted to cheer me up, and I said: Holy Father, I think Poland is a chosen nation, the most fortunate nation in the world. The Holy Father looks at me and asks why. I say that every day, many times a day we can define ourselves. We live helplessly, things which are evident elsewhere are not evident here, black is white for us. We are constantly testing ourselves. That is why we are able to go back to the roots. At the same time we look at rich Americans and ask, by what tests do the measure themselves? Well, they can pick up a new girl, get a new car... The Holy Father liked this very much.

You are constantly surrounded and under surveillance by the police. How do you manage to live in these conditions?

It's not pleasant, but you can get used to anything. Every situation has its good sides. Even when so many cars tail me and so many people follow me, at least everyone knows where their taxes are going.

Do you read the newspapers? What is your reaction when the official press attacks you?

Of course I read the papers. I especially enjoy reading articles in which I am attacked. Because if they attack me, that means that they are afraid of me, and of the rest of us. And anyway, the things they accuse me of are always absurd. Now, when I send my wife Danusia to take my place at the Nobel prize ceremonies, they will probably say I am sending her off because I want to play around with other women while she's away.

What do you expect from the West, today?

Perseverance. Above all perseverance, and remembering that the work we are doing here is not only for ourselves. We are propagating peaceful methods of achieving goals. Our ideals apply not only to Poland. They should form the basis for international solidarity.

What do you think of the pending trials of members of the National Commission and KOR [the Workers Defence Committee]?

I am ashamed that such things take place in my country. Unfortunately, we have no effective means at the moment of preventing a situation where the best of us get sentenced and put in prison. These people really are the best among us, and we must do everything to prevent this.

Bringing charges against seven members of the National Commission and experts from KOR isn't law, it's

'They will achieve nothing with tanks'

political revenge. It is an attempt to divide us. Of course we had our differences of opinion with Kuron [Jacek Kuron, KOR leader], or Rulewski [Jan Rulewski, Solidarity leader in Bydgoszcz region]. But I was the leader, I stood at the head of the National Commission. The talk about an extreme wing of Solidarity is propaganda rubbish. Their public statements are cut up and put back together in such a way as to make it seem that they wanted to overthrow everything. You can do that with anyone. We worked together, and if anyone finds them guilty, then they must find me guilty too.

What is "Solidarity" today? A value and an ideal which we have served and which we continue to serve. The name Solidarity best expresses what we are doing and want to keep on doing.

Do you have a programme of action? What is it?

I'm not alpha and omega and I can't provide solutions on a golden platter. But it is certain that the people on the other side will come to see that they won't achieve anything with tanks and shouted threats. Some of them have already come to see this. They will become more and more divided among themselves, will blame each other when things continue to get worse. We must be prepared for that. We cannot let ourselves be divided and we must return to our factories. That is our place, that is where our strength lies. We must also have concrete economic and administrative solutions, so that we don't repeat the business with the Solidarity statutes, which were drawn up in two days because no-one had thought of it before. But I am a worker and I can't prepare that myself. There are wiser people out there, they should consider and draw up proposals, and the time for implementing them will surely come.

I am convinced that we simply cannot fail to win. The system is inefficient, it doesn't work, and we must prepare new solutions. Perhaps it would be good if these were solutions not only for us, but for the whole world.

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moreover... Miles Kington

Season's greetings to you, too

However much we like Advent calendars, there is something very old-fashioned about them, something which doesn't quite correspond to the real Christmas of 1983. So for all of you who like little windows, but don't like pictures of teddy bears and red-breast robins, here's a brilliant new idea - a Christmas check-list!

Simply tick off each of the following Christmas omens as you see them. When all the boxes are full, it's Christmas time.

- An article by Kingsley Amis on hangovers, and the uselessness of trying to cure them.
- A reminder that it is now too late to post Christmas cards abroad.
- A message from the BBC that you can see more than 100 feature films over the Christmas period if you have nothing better to do.
- A man from the Weather Centre saying that we are unlikely to have a white Christmas this year, but we can always dream about it.

- Bing Crosby on radio doing just that.
- The first Christmas card from someone who wouldn't dream of sending a card to you.
- A search for gloves which reveals only three in the house, none of them matching.
- A horrendous traffic jam explained by the surly taxi driver as being caused by all those blasted people come to see the Christmas decorations.
- The sudden realization that all the Christmas trees left in the shops are less than a foot high.

- The first Christmas card from someone whose address you have lost.
- The general air of foreboding and doom at work, caused by the approach of the office party.
- A cheery article about mulled wines and hot punches, which you cut out and put with all the articles you have cut out at previous Christmases.
- The first Christmas card from a relative abroad to whom it is now too late to send a card back.
- The first TV trailers for Christmas specials, made by TV stars who have already finished the programme and are now lolling in the Bahamas.

- An encouraging article saying that Beaujolais nouveau is now even better to drink than when it first got here, and that the stampede to drink it on the day of arrival was only a publicity gimmick by the importers. The article does not mention that it, too, is a publicity gimmick by the importers.
- The first TV news item on Christmas at Greenham Common.
- The first Christmas card from an illegible signature.
- A belated decision to go out and buy a Christmas tree less than a foot high, only to find that they have all been bought by Japanese bonzai tree enthusiasts.
- The first ice on the inside of the bedroom window.
- The first feature about young British novelists saying which pop-up books they have most enjoyed in 1983.
- A premature leak about the Queen's Christmas broadcast, revealing either that she is addressing the unemployed directly this year, or that Barry Manilow will make a guest appearance.
- An announcement by British Rail that Special Christmas Services, announcing that there will be no trains on Christmas Day.
- The sudden memory that the big box hidden away for the children said on the lid, "Batteries not included".
- A realization that the only calendars left in the shops feature either kittens of parts of Scotland coloured bright yellow and blue.
- The gradual replacement of all scheduled TV programmes by trailers for Christmas programmes.
- The appearance of the first TV news reader with a piece of holly on the desk.
- The total collapse of the television set five minutes after shops close for Christmas.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 217)

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30

- ACROSS
- 1 Insanity (6)
 - 4 Angry speech (6)
 - 7 Leave out (4)
 - 8 Strong reaction (8)
 - 9 Frying pans (8)
 - 12 Plum juice (3)
 - 15 Cucumber-flavoured plant (6)
 - 17 Capture (3)
 - 19 Christ (3,2,3)
 - 24 Double magnum (8)
 - 25 Ignoble (4)
 - 26 Miserly (6)
 - 27 Trustworthy (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Pillage (4)
 - 2 Lack of suspicion (2,7)
 - 3 Simple rustic (5)
 - 4 Templed (5)
 - 5 Flowing garment (4)
 - 6 Russian country house (5)
 - 10 Place (5)
 - 11 Parody (5)
 - 12 Ocean journey (3,6)
 - 13 Hunted animal (4)
 - 14 Pierce (4)
 - 18 Representative (5)
 - 20 Science (5)
 - 21 Energy (5)
 - 22 University robe (4)
 - 23 Remainder (4)

SOLUTION TO No 216
ACROSS: 1 Sparse 5 Dull 8 Hilly 9 Cuckold 11 Frispy 13 Jive 15 Facsimile 18 Prim 19 Miesemic 22 Stamina 23 Model 24 Zeal 25 Miteom
DOWN: 2 Palpi 3 Ray 4 Excursion rate 5 Dice 6 Leonine 7 Chafe 10 Dreg 12 Pact 14 Film 15 Frigate 16 Opus 17 Scold 20 Nudge 21 Mill 23 Mcl

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



Tidings of something, if not exactly joy

I know it is a blasphemous thought at this time of year, but I do feel the religious lyric is bankrupt of all relevance to the reality of a modern Christmas.

While Shepherds quaffed their hocks by night All seated in the lounge Their little angel Maud came down

It is high time this diary turned back the pages of the calendar, in the interests of comparative study.

How lame theory is, I am reminded of a lad called Hemmings, who blew up his Doctor Barnardo's box in order to invest the contents in yet more explosives.

"While Shepherds quaffed" has not gone down at all well with the family in question.

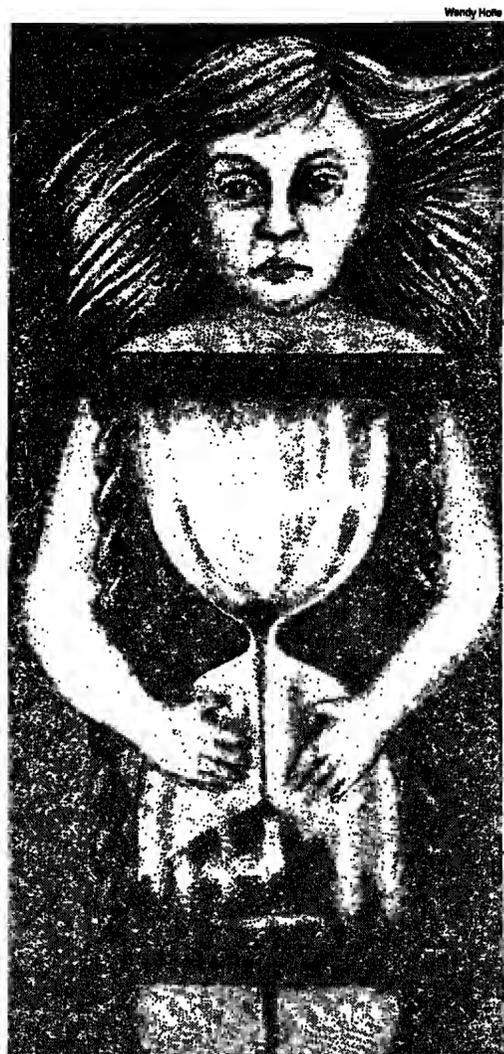
To be or not to be a mother

Hilaire Gomer on the dilemmas of delayed parenthood

The current fashion among women with careers is to put off having babies until they are well into their 30s.

The risk of miscarriage cannot be underestimated, nor can the danger of limb damage to the foetus and rhesus blood problems.

For some women the actual test is not a trauma, merely a necessary means, with luck, to peace of mind for the rest of the pregnancy.



Pudding for all tastes

Food, like child-rearing, is a subject on which everyone has views. To write about it is to invite an exchange of ideas and it is never possible to please everyone.

THE TIMES COOK

Put one teaspoon of dripping (or oil at a pinch) in each depression of the tin.

- 1 large egg
150 ml (1/2 pint) milk
4 teaspoons dripping
Sift the flour and salt into a bowl.

IB JORGENSEN DESIGNER SHOP SALE NOW ON COCKTAIL, EVENING & DAY WEAR 50% REDUCTION ON MOST STOCK

WINKFIELD PLACE New 12-Week Cordon Bleu Cookery Certificate Course

TALKBACK Women's work From Mr M. A. Symonds, Columbia House, Winford, Hereford

CONOLEY & JOHNSON Smedley's & CHILPRUFFE Finest Quality Underwear for Women

TONIGHT GARCIA WILL BE MURDERED.

THE TIMES DIARY

No breaks, just break-up

The Day After, the American nuclear holocaust film due to be transmitted on Saturday, could be The Big Loser for London Weekend Television.

Line of inquiry

Members of the Post Office Engineering Union can find out the state of play in their current dispute by dialling an automatic answering service.

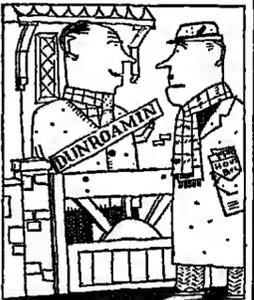
Put to bed

Newspaper sales have boomed in Lambourne, Berkshire, since businessman Louis Jones began to sell them shredded by the bale to the local racing stables as litter.

Pop, with class

Albemarle Pawnbrokers, who have just opened in Bristol, in modern premises planned by an interior designer, are aiming for up-market customers.

BARRY FANTONI



'We're renaming it Dmozorowconveyancia'

Leše-majesté

Although Malaysia's nine hereditary rulers are fighting hard against government plans to reduce their powers and privileges, they have not always been so insistent on pomp and pageantry.

Mr Speaker, sir!

Bryan Davies, secretary of the Parliamentary Labour Party, refuses to let my account of the MPs v Press Gallery football match go unchallenged.

Daisy clips it out

The programme for Daisy Pulls It Off, at the Globe Theatre is full of spoof items of a jolly hockey stick nature, such as a letter to patrons from headmistress Beryl Waddell.

Christopher Walker on the man caught in the Middle East crossfire

Husain: the clamp tightens

Amman Outside the restaurant most favoured by Amman's diplomatic community, the guards hired by the owner patrol ceaselessly in search of car bombs.

The city is now braced for a fresh upsurge of violence following the renewal of King Husain's invitation to Yasser Arafat, the beleaguered PLO chairman, to return and resume the talks.

"Arafat can become strong again, because the West Bank and Gaza Strip still believe in his leadership, and the majority is with him."

The discussions last spring were focused on formulating a joint Palestinian-Jordanian approach towards negotiations with Israel on the future of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

After 31 turbulent years on the Hashemite throne King Husain, at the age of 48, is now facing what western and Arab observers believe is a predicament as difficult and dangerous as any he has confronted.

Apart from the fears aroused by the spate of bomb and gun attacks the predominant mood in the capital is one of deep uncertainty.



condition, which could provoke a succession battle. "Whoever wins, it will be bad for us. There are too moderates in the running."

King Husain has frankly admitted that events have deprived him of the luxury of taking no action at all. The question is how he will manoeuvre when faced with the real threat of becoming the victim of both Israeli and Syrian ambitions.

The King, who had summoned journalists to express his dismay at the outcome of the Israeli-US summit in Washington, explained his concern.

April, there is no mistaking the international implications. Although no new elections could be ordered in the West Bank, it has the power to nominate members there to replace those who have died.

Observers here see the recall - announced at a time when Mr Arafat's future looked even bleaker than it does now - as an attempt to give the king an insight into how various elements would react to any attempt of his to take up support of the West Bank, however indirectly.

Last week, President Reagan repeated an earlier pledge to the king that if Jordan and the Palestinians would agree to enter talks, the US would press Israel to halt its settlement activity.

This remains the greatest barrier to any break in the present log-jam, with the problem of who would make concessions first. The Israeli government will not consider a settlement freeze before the king comes to the negotiating table on the basis of the Camp David agreement.

Although the basic problems of securing a breakthrough have been in existence since President Reagan launched his initiative on September 1, 1982, they have become much more urgent by the region's worsening security situation.

An Amen to end all Amens

I have heard the tribal chant go up at Cardiff Arms Park and I have heard the 5,000 assembled delegates at the national conference of Women's Institutes wade into "Jerusalem".

It is without doubt the most eccentric event in the musical calendar. That it is celebrating its tenth anniversary tomorrow evening, sold out months in advance, brought to order by no less a baton than Sir David Willcocks, Director of the Royal College of Music, and yet again without rival the loudest Messiah in the market, is a triumph of improbability over probability.

The Partners, David Burgess and Donald Monro, are amateur musicians and organizers of musical events. They had recently set up a performance of Messiah by a local choir in which the choir had been summoned for rehearsal on the wrong day, and had been forced to perform unrehearsed.

Considering the implications, the Partnership extrapolated the case on the largest possible scale. Envisage a choir totally unknown to each other - just anyone turning up who wanted to have a go...



Sir David Willcocks: "If only Handel could be with us..."

So it was, children, that Daddy came to sing at the Albert Hall; and you too. It is one of those modern mass assaults on a visible summit of enterprise, like the London Marathon.

The idea caught on extraordinarily. Before long, Easter performances of other works were introduced: it is to be Mozart's Requiem next year.

It would be easy to fill the entire Hall with a ring of singers, if it were not for Sir David's very natural objection to having tiers of basses bellowing down the back of his neck.

One of the Partners, Gavin Park, who conducted for the first five years, died this summer a few weeks after playing cello in the orchestra for last Easter's Scratch Verdi Requiem.

Susan, who sings alto and does most of the paperwork. "The attraction lies in sheer scale, and in the glamour of a very special place," says David Burgess.

"Some very good soloists apply, because it's a good shop window," Sir David Willcocks says. "There are representatives of so many choirs there that there is a good chance of other engagements."

But it is serious music-making? "It's a fun occasion - I don't mean in the realms of comedy. If Handel could be with us now he'd be delighted he was giving so many people pleasure."

At least the mighty juggernaut has never yet jolted to a halt, and Sir David keeps the tempi masterfully brisk. The spectacularly brilliant pieces like "Worthy is the Lamb" are less at risk of careering off the tracks than subtler pieces like "Behold the lamb of God" or "And with his stripes".

Phillip Whitehead

When the law calls out the pickets

Productivity, innovation, job-sharing - these are the keywords of an industrial society traumatized by its recent past. We all agree with them, until the face in the space is our own.

Unfortunately these judgments in the court of public opinion are seldom even-handed. Some restrictive practices are fully scrutinized. Others are not. This is why trade unions have become accustomed to a hearing themselves analysed as part of the problem, rather than as part of the solution.

The warfare at Warrington has intensified it. Small wars are often surrogate struggles for greater powers, and so it is here. Mr Eddie Shah's combative instincts and portable winning-post have been recruited by backers who are eager to hold his coat in a tussle with the NGA.

Free sheets have been an extraordinary growth area in the last decade, often using new technology faster and better than the established provincial press. I have no animus against them, and write a weekly column myself in one of the most successful, The Derby Trader.

No trade unionist in the press is in any doubt what the non-union plant is all about. Mr Christopher Pole-Carew of T. Bailey Forman spent it out with brutal clarity in 1979 when he said: "I have always done my best to humiliate and discredit union officials".

What, after all, are the printers offered? They see a succession of pundits on television who tell them, smugly, that the new technology offers them nothing but lost jobs. Single keyboarding means no printers, as they already are at T. Bailey Forman.

Jock Bruce-Gardyne

Must we catch the Airbus?

"I do not", the Prime Minister told the Commons the other day, "want another Concorde in my hands. The remark, one gathers, was widely seen in aircraft-making circles as in doubly bad taste."

Yet perhaps the Prime Minister had a point. For Concorde is an instructive story. It all started in the 1950s, when research at the Royal Aeronautical Establishment at Farnborough proved that it was technically possible to build a supersonic commercial carrier.

The government, in the person of Mr Duncan Sandys (as he then was) was anxious to secure a merger of British airframe manufacturers, needed a dowry to offer to the reluctant suitors, and support for Concorde fitted the bill.

The prime minister of the day, Mr Harold Macmillan, laid down that the aircraft manufacturers would have to match the public contribution pound for pound. This in the event, the manufacturers declined to do as by then the leading airlines had made it clear they saw no prospect of having the cash to buy the product, their reluctance was understandable.

The wretched cheese-parers at the Treasury did not stand a chance. Supersonic travel was "the wave of the future"; if we opted out we might as well get out of aircraft-making altogether, the Americans were knocking Concorde because they wanted the market for themselves; the airlines were just playing hard to get - when Concorde rolled into service they would all have to buy it; last - but not least - here was a chance to prove our "Europeanness" and persuade de Gaulle to unlock our attempt to join his Common Market.

Yet when, years later, Mr Macmillan came to write his six-volume memoirs, Concorde did not rate a mention. Which is not

George Hill

When the law calls out the pickets

matter comes into dispute, unions then and the only weapon they have - itself a blunt instrument - blocked by the court's restraint upon their action.

This will provoke in many an editorial department the response, so much the better. The sins of the godfathers in the print are being visited on the next generation. Ironically, it is in Fleet Street, where their power and practices are strongest, that the printers have to set up in type the most vehement editorial criticism of themselves.

They have been described as a selfish, overpaid cartel, clinging to a monopoly over an activity which others without their particular skills could do more quickly and cheaply.

They reflect that it is their misfortune to be born on the wrong side of the tracks. For when they are hauled into court, justice is meted out to them by representatives of the biggest closed shop in Britain - the legal profession. How does it set an example to the printers? We have seen the answer this month when a cherished monopoly of solicitors has been threatened by Mr Austin Mitchell's House Buyers Bill.

The Law Society, which was accused this week of scandalous conduct in the investigation of alleged malpractices by one of its own council members, is vigorous in its assertion that standards will lapse if the solicitors' monopoly is breached. It was rightly rebuked by the New Law Journal, which referred it to Sir Gordon Borrie's recent charge that the professions have "sought to create for themselves greater monopoly rights than can be justified".

But if we are to get rid of demarcations and ancient monopolies in the print it is not likely if we operate with the rhetoric of destruction and division. If you doubt this, try selling Mr Mitchell's Bill to your local solicitor on the basis that his outdated and restrictive practice will now have to accept its own extinction with equanimity.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

NO FURTHER ON

The failure of the Athens summit is one of the most serious setbacks the European Community has ever had. First of all it was an exhibition of extraordinary ineptitude. After months of preparation and private contact among ministers and officials the government leaders proceed with ceremony to Athens to face what everyone knows to be crucial decisions on the future of the Community. Thereupon they suddenly discover that they cannot agree on anything and depart in disarray looking ridiculous. This is not the service that taxpayers have a right to expect for their money. Nor does it inspire confidence in the Community. With modern means of communication such surprises should be avoidable.

A small part of the blame must fall on the Greeks, whose inexperience in Community affairs made for a less than forceful presidency over the past six months, and somewhat inadequate handling of such an important summit. Another part of the blame must fall on Herr Kohl, who appeared ill-informed and unfamiliar with positions prepared by his own ministers, who had differences among themselves.

The largest share of responsibility must be borne by M Mitterrand, who suddenly abandoned positions which had been regarded as holding the key to compromise. Only recently, the French proposed changes in budgetary procedures that would match spending to funds instead of funds to spending, thereby imposing spending limits of the

sort desired by Britain and other members, especially on agriculture. Mrs Thatcher also thought she had support for the principle that budgetary contributions should be based on something better than temporary bargains, and preferably on each member's gross domestic product. West Germany would go from this, as would France when it becomes another net contributor after enlargement of the Community. At Athens, however, M Mitterrand suddenly went right back to his much earlier position that Britain's budgetary contributions must be dealt with on a temporary basis only.

Explanations for this bewildering turnabout will presumably emerge gradually. For the moment it looks as though M Mitterrand was either not fully aware of what his own ministers were doing or not fully in control of their obvious disagreements. Or perhaps he feared being accused of selling out his own farmers just before next year's elections for the European parliament. But there is also a possibility that the French would like the turning point in the Community's history to take place under the French presidency next year, in which case we have witnessed merely a tactical diversion.

Should Britain also share some of the blame? The French press is already saying it should. Certainly Mrs Thatcher has held very firmly to the position that Britain will agree to higher revenues for the Community only if budgetary arrangements

are reformed and spending on agriculture is brought under control. It is against the tradition of Community negotiation, or indeed of diplomacy in general, to place a final position on the table at the outset but at least it makes for clarity, and Mrs Thatcher has been fortified in her resolve by the knowledge that she is in a strong position, since the Community will go bankrupt without agreement on financing. She also knows - and believes others know - that she is acting in the best long-term interests of the Community, since it cannot develop further without reforms of the type she is suggesting. But this attitude obviously does not endear her to fellow Europeans, even if many of them know in their hearts that she is right.

She may now be tempted to sit back and wait for the others to come round but she would be wiser to take a more active and conciliatory line while sticking to the essence of her conditions. A road accident of the type which has just taken place in Athens leaves everyone shaken and liable to lash out at others. Some calm mopping up and bandaging is required, and so attempt at optimism. After all, the Community has had crises and deadlocks before, most notably at the Dublin summit. Often it needs a real crisis to generate energy and sense of urgency. This time it is facing the need for much more fundamental change than usual, so it may need a steeper dose of shock treatment. With a bit of luck, Athens could turn out to have provided it.

Commonsense on civil defence

From the Minister of State for Home Affairs

Sir, In his article today (December 6) on civil defence Mr Duncan Campbell, on behalf of the GLC, presses for more precise information about the likely course of attack on these islands.

I have to tell Mr Campbell that we in the Home Office do not have nearly first-hand plans of attack of a potential enemy. Since we are not so fortunate we have to keep patiently explaining that an attack could take many forms, from a conventional strike to a full-scale nuclear attack. We shall continue to update our information on these possibilities and to give the fullest possible guidance to local authorities.

What we could not accept is the argument that because there are bound to be wide uncertainties local authorities are entitled to sit back and do nothing to carry out requirements on civil defence which Parliament has laid upon them.

So long as we keep up our policy of deterrence, which we have maintained with our Nato allies, attack is unlikely. Against that background, Parliament has required local authorities to undertake some common sense civil defence duties, mainly planning and training. Of course, if the worst came to the worst, those who survived would turn out and help. Earlier planning and training could make such help effective in saving lives. That is what civil defence is about.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS HURD,
Home Office,
Queo Anne's Gate, SW1,
December 6.

From the President and the Chairman of the National Council for Civil Defence

Sir, One more film depicting the horrors of nuclear attack on a city is about to be shown to the public (*The Day After*, independent television). There can be few people in this country who are not aware of the terrible effects of nuclear weapons, so films of this kind do not "educate the public" but merely induce a sense of apathy and despair. They do not and cannot show the wider picture, that well-planned and resourced civil defence measures could save the lives of many millions of people outside the areas of direct attack.

Civil defence is not about the possession of nuclear weapons but about the hope of survival. There is always hope, but there are those who appear to have a vested interest in destroying that hope by their own attack on every effort, however small, put forward for the civil defence of our people. Let them demonstrate otherwise or look to their conscience.

It is reported that the Government has asked for "the right to reply" to the showing of this film. It is in our view to take this opportunity to declare publicly their own commitment to a strong civil defence for the people of Britain.

Our present 'CD' resources are inadequate for a conventional attack and far below the level to meet the greater shock of a nuclear one. War is not yet imminent and there is still time to build up these resources as an insurance for our future survival, but time may one day run out.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY THORNE, Chairman,
The National Council for Civil Defence,
Cayzer House,
2 St Mary Axe, EC3,
December 5.

Local democracy

From the Leader of West Yorkshire Metropolitan Council

Sir, Ronald Butt (November 24) rightly concludes that local influence should be rebuilt into local administration through the ballot box. This is a welcome conclusion which everyone in local government will entirely support.

Unfortunately it runs entirely contrary to the Government's present policies, which are to make as many decisions as possible from the sphere of local influence and transfer them to Whitehall. To the most extreme case the metropolitan county councils and the GLC are to be abolished and their functions transferred to quangos and civil servants.

The justification for this is, as

Competition in house purchase

From Lord Harris of High Cross

Sir, Conservative defenders of the solicitors' closed shop for conveyancing should ponder whether they really want to be classed in the public mind with NGA, Aslef and other arch-protectionists of sectional interests. The Law Society is behaving no more "professionally" than these more plebeian Luddites in justifying its monopoly on the pretext of preserving standards when its true effect is to inflate costs and prices by the age-old device of obstructing competition and innovation. Indeed, if Arthur Scargill were more consistent he would already have offered solicitors the professional services of his flying pickets.

My colleagues in the Lords non-party Repeal Group welcome wider discussion of the urgent need to get rid of all outdated restrictions. The difficulty borne out by our experience is that every restrictive practice is ruthlessly defended by entrenched concentration of interest groups well armed against the sporadic, scattered forays of amateur consumers.

Thus, on the repeal of the Shops Act, we encountered determined resistance from USDAW (Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers) and the Retail Consortium. On the Truck Acts and wages control, it was the old trade union preservationists who always prefer "negotiation" (ie, endless waffle) to action this day. On the spectacles monopoly it was the myopic opticians' cartel that tried to blind us with special pleading.

The most plausible plea for the Law Society might be that it is unfair to pick on the solicitors' restrictive practices so long as other professional trade union racketeers are left intact. The solution is not for the Government to dither or affect neutrality, or even to take on the enemy one by one, but to throw their weight against all these privileged exemptions from the general rule of competition in the impartial interests of all consumers.

Ministers might draw encouragement from the political wisdom of R. A. Butler, who wrote of his

weekend workers from local archaeological societies.

The proposal by the GLC's Historic Buildings Division, more than two years ago, that in return for a substantial grant London's scattered archaeological services should be rationalized and extended to cover the whole of London, was therefore welcomed by the working party. The new scheme, under which the Museum of London became the employer of most full-time archaeologists working in London, began on April 1, 1983, and is clearly a great step forward. It will be tragic if it is now destroyed by the demise of the GLC.

Yours faithfully,
RALPH MERRIFIELD (Chairman),
Working Party on London Archaeology,
32 Poplar Walk,
Horne Hill, SE24.

Sugar production

From Sir Robert Kirkwood

Sir, With CAP under review, consideration should be given to the social and economic propriety of the overproduction, and subsidised export, of sugar.

Raw sugar is the traditional export of a number of Third World countries. Sugar cane is one of the few crops that tropical areas can produce economically in bulk; it is also labour intensive.

To pledge assistance to backward countries, whilst subsidising competition in one of the oldest markets, is incomprehensible, even by CAP standards.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT KIRKWOOD,
Three Kings,
Sandwich, Kent.

Way of the Cross

From Mr Anthony D. G. S. Earl-Williams

Sir, Your leading article "The way of the Cross" (November 21) is intrinsically sound. It behoves some Protestant leaders to attack you as they have when their own religion was founded upon private interpretation of holy scripture and the individual conscience of each believer.

Catholics understand only too well the difference between private faith (which men indeed do have, for without it they believe nothing) and the living, sacramental community of the Church, with its ex-cathedra authority.

The attempt by many to fuse Christianity with left-wing politics is not only dishonourable; it is theologically disordered, yet, Sir, explains why your sensible leading article has been so disavourably received.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY D. G. S. EARL-WILLIAMS,
52 Parliament Hill,
Hamstead, NW3,
November 26.

Portuguese sovereignty

From the Minister Counsellor for Portugal

Sir, In *The Times* of November 11 your correspondent in Madrid mentioned that Portugal had "achieved" independence (from Spain) only in the seventeenth century.

May I remind you that the Kingdom of Portugal was formed in 1143. At that time Spain did not exist as a nation (it was formed by Ferdinand and Isabella in the fifteenth century) and a treaty of alliance between Portugal and England has existed since 1373.

For a period of sixty years, starting in 1580, the kingdoms of Portugal and Spain were under the same Hapsburg sovereigns, but in 1640 the purely Portuguese Braganca dynasty (who incidentally gave a queen to England) conquered and preserved power until the monarchy fell in 1910 and the present republic was established.

Yours faithfully,
JOSE M. de MACEDO,
Minister Counsellor,
Portuguese Embassy,
11 Belgrave Square, SW1,
November 11.

Fresh look at Calke Abbey

From the Chairman of the National Heritage Memorial Fund

Sir, Mrs Currie (December 5) criticizes the trustees of the National Heritage Memorial Fund over Calke Abbey. I hope you will allow me the space to explain the attitude of the trustees.

Calke Abbey and its fate have weighed heavily on our minds for many months. In June this year we considered a request from the National Trust for very substantial grants in respect of both Calke Abbey and Belton House. As far as Calke was concerned, it was explained that the approach was necessary because the Department of the Environment had refused to accept certain "non-heritage" land in lieu of capital tax, which could have been used to provide an endowment.

We had visited both Calke and Belton and, after much deliberation, informed the National Trust that although we felt both properties to be of great importance to the national heritage and that both ought to be saved, we had sufficient resources to help only one of them.

Having been put into the position of having to make a choice, we chose Belton; bearing in mind that Belton was already on the open market for sale, we really had very little room for choice. Indeed, the National Trust had already told us that they regarded Belton as the more urgent priority. The assistance promised in respect of Belton at the time represented almost 40 per cent of our uncommitted resources.

Our responsibilities extend wider than simply English historic houses and their contents. There are historic houses in other parts of the United Kingdom, paintings and other works of art, areas of land of scenic and scientific interest, all of which have a call on our funds. We have indeed wide responsibilities and relatively slender resources. Moreover, we have no idea what future funding we shall receive from Government.

To date, the National Heritage Memorial Fund has been invited to consider contributing to one solution only for Calke Abbey. Are there other ways to save Calke? Is this not a case when a wider partnership of interests, including Government, National Trust, Historic Buildings Council, local authorities, the Harpur-Crewe trustees, as well as ourselves, could achieve the objective which all your correspondents are seeking? For our part, and within our available resources, we are ready to consider any possibilities.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES OF AMISFIELD,
Chairman, National Heritage Memorial Fund,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1,
December 6.

From Mr Patrick Cormack, MP for Staffordshire South (Conservative)

Sir, My colleague Edwina Currie (December 5) is right to deplore the likely, and totally unnecessary, loss of Calke Abbey. I visited this quite remarkable "time capsule" of a house with her in August and I am sure she will forgive me if I say that she understates its value. In its way Calke is, I believe, as important as the Mary Rose.

As Mrs Currie makes clear, a solution could be found but she is, I think, uncharacteristically unfair in castigating the National Trust and the National Heritage Memorial Fund as well as the Government.

Neither the trust, which is an independent charity, nor the fund, set up by Government to help safeguard the heritage, can do what is necessary unless the Treasury allows ministers at the Department of the Environment to display the sensitivity they must surely possess.

It is not too late for the Chancellor to show he is not a philistine, but it soon will be.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK CORMACK, (Chairman),
All Party Arts and Heritage Group,
House of Commons,
December 5.

Carlisle-Settle line

From Mrs Olive Clarke

Sir, In the interests of accuracy, and for the benefit of prospective objectors to the proposed closure by British Rail of the Settle-Carlisle line, and consequently the stations at Appleby and Settle, may I draw your attention to the article by Alan Whitehouse in your paper (November 17).

The Settle-Carlisle line, as its name denotes, runs between these towns and therefore passes through the area of not one, but two Transport Users' Consultative Committees - those of Yorkshire and of the North-West, both of which will be responsible for the receipt of objections at the appropriate time and for the arrangement of public hearings.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVE CLARKE, Chairman,
North-West Transport Users' Consultative Committee,
Room 308,
Royal Exchange,
Cross Street,
Manchester,
December 2.

Indigestible

From the Rev Dr Gordon Huelin

Sir, Much is heard nowadays of the commercialization of Christmas, but an advertisement in today's *Times* (December 5) makes one feel that we have reached a new level in this trend. A Christmas menu called the "Twelve Days of Christmas", starting on December 12 is it possible to go any further?

Yours faithfully,
GORDON HUELIN,
Department of Christian Doctrine and History,
King's College London,
Strand, WC2,
December 5.

STILL A VITAL ROLE TO PLAY

The apparent slide towards war between American and Syrian forces in Lebanon has led to calls, in Parliament and elsewhere, for the withdrawal of the British contingent from that country. That is understandable, but in present circumstances wrong.

It is understandable because the British and American contingents are parts of the same multinational force (MNF) and because, whatever the British troops went there for, it was not to go to war with Syria. Indeed, the agreement between the British and Lebanese governments under which the British contingent was sent states explicitly: "In carrying out its duties, the British Force will not engage in hostilities or other operations of a warlike nature."

The fact is, however, that so far the British force has not engaged in hostilities and has not been asked to. Nor, for that matter, has anyone engaged in hostilities against it. Were that to happen it could, under the agreement, "exercise the right of self-defence" which is what the Americans claim to have been doing.

The Americans and the French have both come under attack and have both exercised the right of self-defence, interpreting it rather more broadly than their partners in the force would like. Both have been placed in an invidious position by the resurfacing of bitter

internal conflicts within Lebanon which, at the time when the MNF went in, seemed to have been softened by the common Lebanese desire to reassert national sovereignty and end foreign occupation. In these internal conflicts the Lebanese government and army have been identified with one side, the side favouring continued Maronite predominance in the state.

To some extent that affects the whole of the MNF, since all four contingents are there at the government's invitation "to assist the Lebanese Government and the Lebanese Armed Forces in the Beirut area". But the French and the Americans are more directly affected: the French because of their historic associations with the Maronite community, the Americans because of their active involvement in rebuilding and retraining the Lebanese army. The American presence has lately acquired an even more partisan flavour, first through official statements portraying events in Lebanon as part of a wider east-west conflict and secondly through last week's strategic agreement with Israel.

The Americans went beyond mere self-defence in September, in the view not only of their allies but of their own diplomats and commanders on the spot, when they used naval bombardment to support the Lebanese army in its defence of Souk al-Gharb. Since then their re-

connaisance flights have gone far beyond the Beirut area. (It can be argued that this was necessary to secure their men in Beirut against shelling from the hills, though in practice it has not succeeded in doing that.)

But the MNF is not an integrated force under a single command, and none of this has so far affected the British or Italian contingents. The job which these contingents are doing is so far appreciated by almost all parties in Lebanon. The Italians have been protecting the surviving inhabitants of the Sabra-Chatila camp. It should not be forgotten that the massacre there was the result of the MNF's premature withdrawal in September, 1982, and so also the moral and political justification for its present mandate.

The British, coming late and in small numbers, have so far played a valuable role in providing security for meetings of the Ceasefire Commission. Britain has historic ties of friendship with the Druze community, in whose eyes the British presence does something to balance that of the traditionally pro-Maronite French. The withdrawal of the British and Italian contingents would leave behind a force not only less multinational but short of any credible peacekeeping capacity. It would be regretted by the great majority of Lebanese of all communities.

SURGERY AT THE FRONTIER

It is still in doubt as we write whether Mr Lars Ljungberg will come through the first hours after yesterday's operation to transplant heart and lungs, and whether congratulations to his surgeons or condolences to his relatives are in order; or even both. Human and medical drama run so high on these occasions that it may appear judiciously cool even to raise the question whether it is right to expend such resources of skill and money in such almost desperate cases.

Mr Ljungberg is of course a private patient, with his costs raised by his neighbours in Sweden. He will not figure directly in the fusillades of statistics that pour between opposite forces in the debate over expenditure on health services - except possibly as a foreign exchange earner. But he unit where his operation was performed only survives because of a special Government subsidy (a special Government subsidy for private support having dried up last year. If the Harfield unit closed, Mr Ljungberg might have gone elsewhere: for British NHS patients the chances might be bleak.

Hard cases make bad law, and rare treatments are an insecure basis for generalizations about health spending policy. It is estimated that only about ten people a year would benefit from his procedure even if it were fully established, so it will never impose a heavy overall burden

on resources. But such estimates rest on flexible assumptions: if it were established, we would face new dilemmas about the cases which would then become marginal candidates for treatment. Within realistic constraints, there can be no escape from painful decisions about whether or not to treat patients who might be saved and would prefer to be. One patient's provision is another's deprivation, and objective criteria for judging what is most humane do not exist. Many doctors feel uneasy that society offers them so few ground-rules for assessing priorities.

Yesterday's operation, with its use of two surgical teams, must have been even more expensive than the heart transplants which are becoming almost a familiar thing these days. There is some artificiality about putting a price on one operation, whose marginal cost is only a small part of that of running a specialized unit for similar work. The sum raised for Mr Ljungberg's behalf is roughly twice the price of a kidney transplant, four times the annual cost of a hospital geriatric bed - or a tenth of the cost of a heart transplant in the USA. The entire special subsidy to the two special heart units represents about one-fourth of what the NHS spends on phone bills and postage each year.

It may be hard to get any sense out of such figures, but the attempt to make judgments about cost-effectiveness has to be made. An official study of the British heart transplant programme is under way, and is reported to have found that the average gain in life expectancy is small, in spite of individual successes like Mr Keith Castle (a French survivor recently celebrated fifteen years with his second heart). The same sum transferred to the kidney transplant programme would probably add years to more lives, though it would be too small to ease materially the acute dilemmas in that part of the service.

It is fair to make some allowance to these calculations for the profession's need to experiment and excel: rightly or wrongly, a health service denied a measure of glamour would suffer in morale and eventually perhaps in quality. Knowledge gained through experiment can often be applied more widely.

Death's account

From the Reverend J. R. Giles

Sir, In your article on funeral expenses (December 3) a Norwich undertaker is quoted as saying that "Undertakers' fees are modest compared with vicars charging £16.50 an hour, plus travelling expenses, and doctors spending 20 minutes on a death certificate for which they are paid £32, plus travel".

There is much more to a funeral than just taking the service, as any conscientious parish priest knows. Nor would he do it otherwise. But two points may not be generally appreciated.

1. The clergyman's fee is subtracted from his stipend so that he personally does not benefit.

2. Hence clergy who waive their fees at funerals and weddings are not in fact doing so at any cost to themselves but to the wider church, which needs all the help it can get to pay its clergy and reduce the financial burden on parishes.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GILES,
The Vicarage,
4 St Mark's Crescent,
Sheffield.

Way of the Cross

From Mr Anthony D. G. S. Earl-Williams

Sir, Your leading article "The way of the Cross" (November 21) is intrinsically sound. It behoves some Protestant leaders to attack you as they have when their own religion was founded upon private interpretation of holy scripture and the individual conscience of each believer.

Catholics understand only too well the difference between private faith (which men indeed do have, for without it they believe nothing) and the living, sacramental community of the Church, with its ex-cathedra authority.

The attempt by many to fuse Christianity with left-wing politics is not only dishonourable; it is theologically disordered, yet, Sir, explains why your sensible leading article has been so disavourably received.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY D. G. S. EARL-WILLIAMS,
52 Parliament Hill,
Hamstead, NW3,
November 26.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Odds are even on a new bid for P & O

Inevitably most of the audience will see Trafalgar House's preliminary figures for the year to end September as a curtain raiser for the "The Battle for P & O", a three act drama starring Mr Nigel Brookes and Mr Jeffrey Sterling...



Nigel Brookes (left) and Eric Parker - Trafalgar's double act in the drama.

The figures deserve a better billing than that however predictable they may appear. Profit before taxation has risen 20 per cent from £65.6m to £79m and the dividend is increased by 17 per cent from 7.2p to 8.5p a share. And there is at least a chance that the P & O will be abandoned.

They will tell you at the box office that Trafalgar withdrew its five-for-four share bid for P & O in June when it was referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Mr Brookes will spend 10 days relaxing in the sun at the start of 1984. He is "75 per cent certain" that shortly after he returns, relaxed and ready to discover that Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary for Trade and Industry, has no intention of standing in Trafalgar's way should it wish to bid again for P & O.

"Our own profit projections have advanced further since last May, when we came forward with our first offer, and we don't want it any more. It is a 50 per cent probability."

It is easy to accuse Mr Brookes of trying to talk down the P & O share price. This has benefited not only from the belief that Trafalgar's five-for-four offer was merely an opener, but also from the advent of Mr Jeffrey Sterling as chairman of P & O with a brief to keep the company independent or, failing that, to make Trafalgar pay a high price for its audacious presumption.

Few men can teach Mr Brookes, or indeed Mr Sterling, new market tricks but one reason for Mr Brookes's success and durability is the care he takes not to get into situations where withdrawal should cost him face or Trafalgar money.

The industrial advantages to Trafalgar of acquiring P & O remain as compelling as before. P & O represents five important acquisitions at sea in areas - cargo shipping, cruising, construction, housing,

property - where Trafalgar is strong and capably managed.

Under Trafalgar's existing management P & O might be made to yield, through rationalization, an extra £20m in profit, beyond the £40m-£50m Mr Sterling and the P & O board would probably project if they were called on to repel a fresh Trafalgar assault.

The logic, for both companies, of putting together the Cunard and P & O passenger fleets, is high irresistible. The value for the future of the British merchant fleet of letting Trafalgar-P & O become the catalyst of change is inestimable.

Yet, having said all that, I believe Mr Brookes is quite capable of walking away from P & O. Analysts seeking to quantify his revised "projections" of Trafalgar's profits are likely to come up with a figure for the current year around £95m. Taking a line through that and my earlier estimates for P & O profits and potential savings in a merger, I can see why Trafalgar might not wish to be pushed into bidding more than its original five-for-four.

"If we walked away," Mr Brookes wryly observed, "Jerry Sterling would have the most frightful headache. There is no downside for us and no virility symbol at stake. For Jeffrey it would be a bit trickier. He would be faced with a repeat of his 10 years' hard labour at Town & City, with the only certainty a repetition of his mistakes."

Rivals in the ring for Trident

Mr Gwyn Ward Thomas, founder of Trident Television, returns from abroad tomorrow. It was looking less likely last night that his management buyout for parts of Trident would succeed.

Negotiations with others over the future of the three companies which no longer fit in a casino and television operation, under Lord Hanson as chairman, are at an advanced stage. Mr Ward Thomas thought at one point his talks were too. Last week, only shareholder approval - the directors speak for 27 per cent of the company - stood between him and buying £1.8m worth of assets for £791,000 down and £1m in five, maybe 10 years' time.

But less than 24 hours before the deal was to be approved, Lord Hanson rang Mr Ward Thomas to tell him that rival offers

were being considered. The shareholders' meeting was adjourned.

Mr Ward Thomas's deal was to buy Windsor Safari Park, scenery makers Watts & Corry and the rights to Trident Films.

The deal looked good for Ward Thomas Holdings. The £1m deferred payment may be extended for a decade in exchange for rights to half the increased value of the 130-acre Safari Park land, should planning consent change.

The appearance of the rivals casts a doubt over the future chairmanship of Trident. It is unlikely that Lord Hanson, ready to take over as chairman, will step aside. In that case Mr Ward Thomas might feel that having lost the management buyout, £83,000 was insufficient recompense for his service contract.

Yamani backs stable oil price as Iran pushes for \$6 rise

From David Young, Energy Correspondent, Geneva

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is not expected to make any changes in oil prices for production quotas at its meeting in Geneva today, Shaiikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi Arabian oil minister, said yesterday.

Speaking on his arrival at the first full ministerial meeting of Opec since the unprecedented \$5 a barrel price cut in March, Shaiikh Yamani said that he expected Opec to stick to the agreement that had already helped to restore stability to the world oil market.

Opec's four-man market monitoring committee, which met yesterday to review recent trends in the oil market, is also recommending that prices and

production quotas be left unchanged. Shaiikh Yamani said that the meeting was going to be "quiet one", and ministers from other leading moderate Opec members, including Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates, also said they expected the meeting to leave the price and production agreement unchanged.

The maintenance of the status quo will however be strongly opposed by the Iranian delegation, which is still insisting that it wants an increase of \$5 or even \$6 a barrel in the \$29-a-barrel reference price. Iran also wants to increase its output.

The monitoring committee was presented with a gloomy picture of the recent, renewed

downward pressure on world oil prices. Spot market trading has come almost to a standstill as oil companies and traders wait to see how Opec reacts to what observers regard as a critical new test of the oil producer's ability to maintain its pricing regime.

Dr Mana Said al-Otaiba, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, and chairman of the monitoring committee, said Opec's production was running slightly above the 17.5-million-barrel-a-day ceiling set in March, but neither he nor other ministers would say by how much.

Dr Otaiba reported to the committee on his meeting on Monday with Mr Peter Walker, Britain's Secretary of State for Energy, at which he expressed

Opec's concern about the increasing level of North Sea production. He said that he did not expect Britain to cut its production. "We understand the British position and they understand our position in Opec. We are all in the same boat."

Opec says North Sea oil production, is running 300,000 barrels a year above what it had regarded as assurances given by the Department of Energy.

Indonesia's oil minister Dr Subroto, said he supported extending the Opec production ceiling until the end of the first quarter of next year, despite calls by Algeria and Venezuela for it to be lowered. Several Opec's 13 members have been pressing for higher individual quotas.

US workers want steel deal blocked

From Bailey Morris Washington

America's largest steel union has vowed to continue its crusade to thwart the proposed joint venture between the British and US Steel corporations.

It has announced its intentions in a nationwide newspaper campaign following the death of its president who had been vehemently opposed to the collaboration.

In an emotional full-page advertisement in more than 150 newspapers yesterday, the steelworkers promised to use every resource to defeat the venture which they claim is not in the public interest because it violates a voluntary import agreement with the European Community.

For months preceding his untimely death United Steelworkers of America president Lloyd McBride dedicated himself and the resources of our union to defeat this scheme. We who follow him will continue the fight," the advertisement read.

A spokesman for the union told The Times that the steelworkers have been given assurances that both Congress and the Reagan Administration are in agreement that the venture would violate the US carbo steel agreement with the EEC.

It is likely Congress will take action when it returns in January on several proposed bills that would further limit the amount of steel which can be exported to US markets.

It is possible that if a quota Bill is passed, it will do so with an amendment prohibiting the British Steel venture with US steel, a Congressional aide said.

The steelworkers drew attention yesterday to the growing Congressional support for tougher restrictions on imported steel. Their advertisement noted that more than 100 members of the house had sponsored a resolution opposing the British Steel venture.

Their action coincided with a related campaign by some of America's largest steel companies for tougher restrictions on imported steel from the Third World and Europe.

Money supply stays within target range

By Frances Williams Economics Correspondent

Money supply growth slowed last month, leaving the main measure of money firmly within its permitted range and bringing the other two measures closer to the Treasury's target.

Provisional estimates by the Bank of England show that all three measures grew by 0.5 to 0.75 per cent in the four weeks to mid-November, after a sharp increase in October.

The most closely watched, sterling M3, has now grown at an annual rate of 10.5 per cent since February, compared with the Government's target range of 7 to 11 per cent, while narrow money, M1, and broader private sector liquidity, PSL2, are on track to come within target by next spring.

But there seems little prospect of an early fall in interest rates, a view reinforced by sterling's steady performance on world currency markets.

Despite some easing of the dollar from record levels reached on Monday and early yesterday, the pound weakened against most other currencies, losing 0.3 on its trade-weighted index to finish at 82.8.

Yesterday's pause in the dollar's latest surge is expected to be only temporary. Despite the remarks of Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, on Monday that the Fed's credit stance remained unchanged the markets expect American interest rates to stay

MONEY GROWTH

Table with columns for Nov 83 and Feb-Nov 83 at annual rates % for M1, M3, and PSL2.

Target range Feb 83-Apr 84 7-11 Source: Bank of England

at high levels, underpinned by the booming economy and swollen budget deficit.

Political tensions in the Lebanon and over the nuclear missiles issue have boosted the dollar's attraction, as a safe haven for footloose funds.

The pound fell to a new low of \$1.4423 yesterday morning before recovering to end London trading 15 points up on the day at \$1.4495. The Deutsche mark gained nearly a penny to DM2.7303 to the dollar, after touching a 10-year low of DM2.7374 at the midday fixing in Frankfurt when the West German central bank intervened heavily with \$75.8m of dollars.

However, dealers saw no sign of intervention from the Bank of England. The authorities do not want to raise interest rates to steady the pound, especially since the problem is essentially the dollar, strength rather than sterling, weakness. As yet there is no pressure from the markets for them to do so.

De Vere extends bid timing

By Jonathan Clare

The would-be bidder for De Vere Hotels and Restaurants has failed to come up with financial assurances demanded by the company within the time set. But De Vere's merchant bank, Hill Samuel, said there was a "fighting chance" the assurances would be made and the deadline has been extended by another week.

The company also confirmed that Mr Gerald Holland is the man behind an off-the-shelf company, called Selfpost, which made the approach. Mr Holland is almost unknown in the City but he is said to have property interests rather than being an hotelier.

Selfpost made a conditional agreement to buy the 51.4 per cent stake owned by De Vere's 81-year-old Austrian chairman, Herr Leopold Muller, at 340p. There is almost certain to be a Stock Exchange inquiry into dealings in De Vere shares which jumped by 83p to 340p on news of the approach but came back to 308p yesterday.

The shares were suspended before the announcement of the approach but had seen considerable trading the day before.

Shareholders in De Vere have been irritated by the delay in revealing the identity of the backers for Selfpost. De Vere owns 13 hotels plus the Mirabelle restaurant and Connaught Rooms in London.

Index hits record

The FT 30 Share Index, without Dunlop falling it back any longer, reached a closing peak of 748.2, a gain of 6.2 points, as the property sector pulled the market forward.

On the Dunlop front, Pegi Malaysia, the largest single shareholder in beleaguered tyre group, added confusion to the proposed rescue attempt being coordinated by Sarasin International Securities, by saying yesterday that it had no immediate plans to meet the consortium and would not be sending its representatives to London to do so.

Market report, page 23

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 748.2 up 6.2 FT 100: 83 up 0.2 FT All Shares: 461.6 up 2.19 Bargains: 20,734 Datastream USM Leaders Index: 95.77 down 0.16 New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1,273.17 up 2.64 Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 9,438.79 down 6.34 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 881.58 up 18.38

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE Sterling \$1.4485 up 15pts Index 82.8 up 0.3 DM 3.9675 down 0.0175 FF 11.9950 down 0.0450 Yen 339.25 down 1.50 Dollar Index 129.3 down 0.4 DM 2.7303 down 0.0082 NEW YORK LATEST Sterling DM 2.7320 Dollar DM 2.7320 INTERNATIONAL SDR\$0.572206 SDR\$2.719708

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 Finance houses base rate 9 1/2 Discount market loans week fixed 8-9 1/2 3 month interbank 9 1/2-9 3/4 Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 9 1/2-9 3/4 3 month DM 6 1/2-6 3/4 3 month Fr 11 3/4-12 1/4 US rates: Bank prime rate 11.00 Fed funds 9 1/2 Treasury long bond 10 1/2-10 1 1/2 ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 6, 1983 inclusive: 8.50 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stenhouse Holdings resignation

The boardroom row at Stenhouse Holdings, the insurance broker which is the subject of a bid from Reed Stenhouse, intensified yesterday as Mr Herbert Houghton resigned from the board. He is writing to shareholders to explain his action.

Mr Houghton, a former chief executive of Stenhouse, said in a statement that he felt the board had not given a positive advice to the Stenhouse Holdings shareholders on the course they should take in relation to the offer, and that its statement did not indicate the widely divergent opinions on the board.

Eagle Star has agreed to call a special shareholders' meeting to approve a capital reorganization that will reduce the expenses of any takeover bid by Allianz Versicherung.

Wall Street Stock prices were slightly higher on moderately heavy volume yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up about 2.5 points to about 1,273. Mead Corporation led the active list, up one to 40 1/2.

Banks: Hovis McDougall, a flood combine, raised pretax profits for the year to September '83 by 29m to £44.1m. Turnover was £1,637 against £1,398m.

Investors Notebook, page 22

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): \$396 pm \$397 pm \$397.50-398.25 (\$274.45) New York latest: \$397.75 (per ounce) \$399.50-411 (\$282.25-283.25) Sovereigns (new): £83.50-84.50 (\$84.50-85) Excludes VAT

Datserv share sale flops

Another offer for sale of shares by tender has flopped in the City. Datserv, the US based IBM computer leasing group, announced yesterday that only 70 per cent of its offer of 6.8 million shares is being taken up at the minimum tender price of 75p. The rest will be left with the underwriters.

Coming so soon after investors turned their backs on the Government's sale of shares in Cable & Wireless, it is bound to increase doubts among issuing houses about the tender method.

The outcome surprised Samuel Montagu, the issuing house, and stockbrokers who had analysed the company.

Mr Rupert Faure Walker, a director of Montagu, cited the failure of the Cable & Wireless issue as one of the reasons for the failure of the Datserv flotation. "I think we got caught in the backlash," he said.

First for Fleming bank

By Philip Robinson

Robert Fleming is poised to become the first British merchant bank to act as both jobber and broker using an international dealing network which would be open 24 hours a day.

A key part of the bank's strategy to deal in international stocks starts in three weeks when its New York office begins making markets in Japanese securities.

Fleming has been acting as broker and jobber in Japanese securities from London this year. Its expansion in New York was prompted by the recent large-scale interest of US institutions in the Tokyo stock market.

Fleming has always been strong in Far Eastern stocks. Through a joint venture with Jardine Matheson, the bank has a 45-man dealing and research operation and is one of the largest non-Japanese investment managers on the Tokyo exchange.

It also has a joint venture with the American firm Rowe Price. The associate handles the management for large US pension funds' international investment.

Fleming's market making will initially be restricted to Far Eastern convertible bonds and equities.

But it is widely thought that the initial market making in London - effectively acting as jobber and broker - will not be limited to foreign securities for long.

With changes in the Stock exchange rules, Fleming clearly has its eye on expanding into British and US securities.

Mr William Garrett, a director, said: "At the moment we have no direct access to the London Stock Exchange. We would like it but I don't think we would be interested in taking merely a third of a broking house."

Rescheduling repayments continuing

Poland cuts debt to bankers

By John Lawless

Bankers who are to meet Polish officials in Vienna next week for their fourth round of rescheduling talks now estimate that Poland's debt to the West had fallen to \$23.7 billion (about £16 billion) by the end of last March.

One banker said: "They have been making repayments under the previous rescheduling agreements absolutely as specified, unlike more heavily indebted countries like Brazil."

This suggests Poland has repaid between \$1.3 billion and \$3.3 billion during the past two years. Its original debt was estimated at between \$25 billion and \$27 billion, although these may have been over-estimates.

However, those payments relate only to commercial bank

debts. Talks on loans made by Western governments, believed to be \$16.8 billion, of which about \$9.9 billion is guaranteed under export credit agreements, came to a halt in Paris about two weeks ago.

They were the first since the Nato ban on rescheduling talks - which broke off in 1981, in protest against martial law - was lifted this year.

Western officials are keen not to portray the latest talks as having "broken down". But they do admit that they found the conditions being sought by the Poles as extraordinary lenient.

The Paris Club talks are likely to resume early next year, when sums of \$2.7 billion and \$1.8 billion, due to be repaid in the last two years, will be up for renegotiation.

British Government loans are about \$1 billion. Although the non-payment has afforded the Poles the luxury of some spare cash to conduct their day-to-day business, the West's action has caused considerable bitterness.

Professor Zdzislaw Sadowski, the Polish Minister responsible for seeing through economic reforms, said in London this week: "Poland is the only debtor country in the world that has been picked out for strangulation."

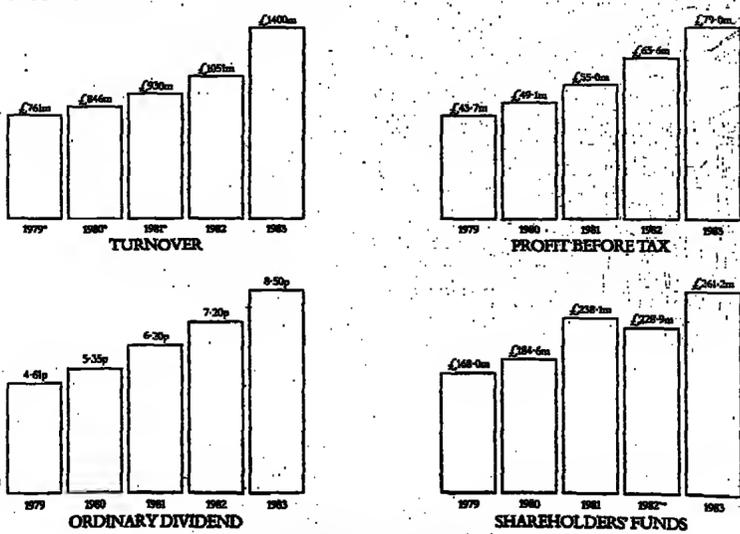
This year, the repayment period for \$1.3 billion in principal was stretched to 10 years, with a five-year grace, at a margin of 1.875 per cent - and 65 per cent of the interest, worth \$200m, was recycled,

Trafalgar House PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

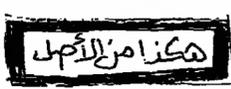
1983 RESULTS

Table showing 1983 Results for Trafalgar House, comparing 1983 and 1982 figures for various categories like Profit Contribution, Contracting, Shipping, etc.

5 YEAR FINANCIAL RECORD



The 1983 Report and Accounts will be posted to Shareholders on 16th December 1983. Copies may be obtained from The Secretary 1 Berkeley Street, London W1X 6NN.



Brewers serve up sharp profit rises

By Jeremy Warner
Two of Britain's big regional brewers have reported a sharp increase in profits for the year to the end of September. The pretax profits of Greenall Whitley, the largest regional brewer and owner of Vladimir vodka from Warrington, Cheshire, rose from £20.7m to £24m, while those of Vaux Breweries of Sunderland were

Greenall Whitley Year to 30.9.83 Pretax profit £24m (£20.7m) Statad earnings 2.56p (2.44p) Turnover £258.7m (£226.6m) Net dividend 4.02p (3.89p) £1.6m higher at £12.1m. Greenall's share price jumped 7p to 111p and Vaux's 6p to 213p on news of the better-than-expected results.

Greenall saw across the board improvements in profits except in its tour operating business. Losses there doubled to £1.1m. But were in line with expectation, the company said. A breakdown of the company's profits reveals that the hotels side was the star performer with returns rising from £1.6m to £3.1m. The company invested £10m

Vaux Breweries Year to 1.10.83 Pretax profit £12.1m (£10.5m) Statad earnings 24.2p (21.6p) Turnover £108.8m (£96.3m) Net dividend 9.07p (8.25p) out of total capital expenditure of £20m in retail outlets, including pubs and hotels during the year. Greenall is recommending a

final dividend of 2.237p raising the total for the year by 9 per cent to 4.02p. Vaux, which is recommending a final dividend of 6.5p, raising the total for the year from 8.25p to 9.07p, said that the year had started reasonably well and the company is looking for continued growth in beer sales

RHM profit up to £44.1m

Overseas profits 28% of total. Earnings per share up. Dividend increased.

Final dividend

The profit for the financial year attributable to the members of the Company is £18,652,000. A final dividend of 2.450 pence per share is recommended making a total of 3.974 pence per share.

Improved profits

The Group's profit before taxation for the financial year to 3 September 1983 was £44,112,000 compared with £35,114,000 for the previous year. External sales rose from £1,598 million to £1,636 million.

The increase of £9 million in pre-tax profits was due to good flour milling results and significant improvements by most other areas of the Group's UK businesses particularly packaged cake and grocery. As a result of the continuing price and discount war British Bakeries sustained a further substantial, but reduced, loss. Ranks (Ireland) Limited reported continuing losses and action has been taken to resolve this. In our overseas business Cerebos Pacific Limited improved on its forecast and the previous year; in the United States we maintained market share and volume but due to an unusually competitive market margins and profits were down.

The disposal in 1982 of our short term investment in British Sugar PLC resulted in a reduction in investment

income but this was offset by lower interest charges which improved as a result of lower interest rates and continuing tight control of working capital. The total reduction in interest paid for the year amounted to £3.8m.

An improving outlook

Our on-going investment and rationalisation programmes in the bread bakeries are now beginning to show the benefits which we had planned and the recent increases in flour and bread prices will help the recovery. The sale proceeds and the large reduction in working capital arising from the recent disposal of the agricultural division and other major disposals has provided us with the facility to strengthen and expand our successful food business worldwide.

The disposal of the agricultural division, which historically earned virtually all its profits during the first half-year, will in future result in a changed phasing of the Group's profits. Trading to date is ahead of plan. Although it is still too early to forecast profits for the half-year, we feel confident about the future development and progress of the Group.

PWJ Reynolds, Chairman

RESULTS IN BRIEF	1983	1982
Turnover (Sales outside the group)	1,636,872	1,598,466
Profit before tax	44,112	35,114
Taxation	12,404	9,841
Profit after tax	31,708	25,273
Minority interests	1,121	88
Extraordinary items	(11,935)	(10,545)
Profit attributable to shareholders	18,652	14,640
Dividends: Preference	283	283
Ordinary (paid and proposed)	11,086	10,692
Profit retained	7,283	3,665
Earnings per Ordinary share of 25p	10.9p	9.0p



RANKS HOVIS McDUGALL PLC

The 1983 Annual Report will be available from December 30. If you wish to have a copy please write to: The Secretary, Ranks Hovis McDougall PLC, P.O. Box 176, Alma Road, Windsor, Berks SL2 3BT



Securities Bill likely next year

By Philip Robinson

Parliamentary draftsman are now working on the details of what may become Britain's first Securities Act, laying down laws for the protection of the investor.

A draft Securities Bill is likely to emerge in about three months. The detailed proposed legislation was due to be attached to a two-year report on investor protection by Professor Lawrence "Jim" Gower. But two problems prevented this: he ran into trouble with the EEC over some proposed changes relating to the insurance industry, and the Stock Exchange agreement with the Government caused a postponement of his thoughts on Britain's bastion of self regulation.

The Department of Trade and Industry, which commissioned Professor Gower's study, received his report this month. It is likely to be published as a White Paper early next year. Professor Gower is believed to favour financial markets and investor advisers regulating themselves. Alongside would run a system of licensing - administered by the Department of Trade and Industry - for those who do not wish to register with a self-regulated organization.

Bell Group seeks mine stake

By Our Financial Staff

Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Group is negotiating with Broken Hill Proprietary, Australia's largest company, to buy a 5 per cent stake in Utah International's Australian coal mines.

BHP has been negotiating to buy Utah from General Electric of the United States for US\$2,400m (£1,700m), but the deal has not yet been signed because of the delay in forming a consortium to take over the Australian coal mining interests.

Mr Holmes à Court, who controls Associated Communications Corporation and has been building up a stake in Fleet Holdings in Britain, told Bell's shareholders there was no connection between the Utah negotiations and the recent bid for BHP. General Electric has agreed to retain up to a quarter of its interest in Utah's coal resources.

Ex-president calls for currency targets

By John Lawless

Governments controlling the world's main currencies should agree to let them move against each other only within "target zones" for two to three years, M Valery Giscard d'Estaing, the former French president, said in London yesterday.

Only at that stage, when the volatility of exchange rates had been reduced, would it make any sense to stage the "high level international monetary conference" agreed at this year's Williamsburg summit. The former president, detailing a series of complex steps he believes is required to bring about a new global monetary system at the Financial Times World Banking in 1984 conference, said: "The most important of these interrelated decisions might well be the inclusion of the pound in the EMS."

M Giscard d'Estaing was with Helmut Schmidt, the former West German Chancellor, co-architect of the European Monetary System. He said: "The promotion of the EMS - is probably the best way for Europeans to induce the American authorities to assess better the international role of the dollar, as was demonstrated in 1978-79 when the launching of the EMS led the US Government to initiate a comprehensive programme to bolster the value of its currency."

Its strengthening, to include all European currencies, would also result in the ECU (the European Currency Unit, which is a basket of EEC currencies) gradually becoming an international currency in its own right.

The power, expertise and influence of the City of London would give the ECU instant credibility and additional acceptability," he told his audience of almost 200 bankers, adding: "I hope that the present opportunity will be seized."

This would enable a "move towards a more stable framework for relations between major currencies". M Giscard d'Estaing said: "My experience has always been that the US authorities are not interested in any discussion on the international monetary system - unless they see, or foresee, a decline in the value of the dollar." But next year could force them into constructive talks, because a \$100 billion trade deficit forecast for that year is not a "sustainable position". Any new system would not embrace rigidity in exchange rates, but should include "target zones between the dollar, the ECU and the yen". M Giscard d'Estaing welcomed the Japanese prime minister's recent decision to "broaden the international use of the yen in trade and financial relations".

New turn in battle for Foster's lager group

By Jonathan Clare

The battle for control of the brewer of the Australian drinkers' best known beer, Foster's Lager, took another bizarre twist yesterday, when the original bidder's stake was bought by a rival.

This fight over Carlton and United Breweries is the biggest yet seen in Australia and puts a value on the brewer of A\$970m (about £600m).

Last Sunday, Elders-IXL, Australia's biggest agricultural group with diversified interests which include merchant banking, made a counter-bid for Carlton to defeat a limited offer

made by an industrial investment company.

The twist is that Elders is 49.4 per cent owned by Carlton. If its bid is successful, it will have to sell the Elders shares owned by Carlton within a year under Australian company law.

Yesterday, Elders announced that Industrial Equity Ltd (IEL), the investment company which bid first, had agreed to sell the stake it had built up in Carlton for A\$70m.

So far, Carlton has not recommended the Elders' bid. But it could frustrate Elders' plans by buying 0.7 per cent of Elders' shares in the market, so giving it control of more than 50 per cent.

The terms of Elders' offer are six of its shares and A\$12.20 cash for every 10 Carlton shares. After news of the deal with IEL, Carlton's shares fell from A\$3.40 on the Sydney stockexchange.

The Scottish Metropolitan Property PLC

"Shareholders Funds Now Exceed £100m."

Main points from the Report for the year ended 15th August, 1983, and the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. David Walton, OSt JP Hon FRCPs (Glasg)

- 16.59% increase in Net Revenue from properties to £6.8m (£5.8m).
- Earnings per share 4.51p (3.87p).
- Dividend payment for year on enlarged share capital at 3.5p net per share amounted to £5.4m (3.5p-£3.1m).
- Annual Property Valuation at 15th August, 1983, amounted to £105.2m.
- Expansion continuing at satisfactory levels.

Stock Exchange House, 69 St. George's Place, Glasgow G2 1BE.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9%
Barclays	9%
BCCI	9%
Citibank Savings	11.0%
Consolidated Crds	9%
Continental Trust	9%
C. Hoare & Co	9%
Lloyds Bank	9%
Midland Bank	9%
Nat Westminster	9%
TSB	9%
Williams & Glyn's	9%

† Minimum Base Rate.
* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 8 day £10,000 up to £20,000, 9 day £20,000 and over, 7.75%

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The 1983 Uncirculated Collection - only £3.95. The ideal gift for the younger collector. The coins of the realm, struck in uncirculated quality and displayed in an attractive, colourful, fact-filled presentation folder. Everyone will be fascinated to

see how coins are made, and to read the story of the new pound coin. The 1983 Uncirculated Pound Coin Presentation Folder - only £2.45. An uncirculated coin has been specially struck to commemorate the issue of the new £1 coin and has been mounted in a beautifully coloured folder containing details on the Royal Mint, coin making and the new coin. A must for collector or non-collector.

The Philatelic/Numismatic £1 Stamp/Coin Cover - £4.95. Limited to just 10,000, an uncirculated one pound coin is displayed in the official philatelic cover bearing a one-pound stamp and pictorial postmark and date of issue (21 April 1983) on the new coin.

The United Kingdom Gold Coins of 1983 - only £79.95. All the nation's gold coins struck in proof quality. 22 carat gold with frosted design reliefs and a mirror-like back-ground, these coins are amongst

the finest anywhere in the world. They all depict the classic portrayal of St George slaying the Dragon together with the resplendent Aquinas portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

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The Sovereign. Weighing 7.99g and limited to only 22,500 world-wide - just £149.95.

The Two Pound. For the first time since Queen Victoria's reign this rare coin is available in proof quality. Weighing 15.99g, limited to only 12,500 pieces - just £299.95.

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(A003) 1983 Proof £2 (A004) 1983 Gold Set(s) @ £499.95 each

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Credit card No: _____
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Economic Commentary by Tim Congdon

Where capitalism's voice of doom went wrong with his prediction

Two great economists, John Maynard Keynes and Joseph Schumpeter, were born in 1883. Today Keynes is mentioned every day in the newspapers and parliamentary debates, while Schumpeter is - outside scholarly circles - rarely noted.

The contrast is odd. Although Keynes made a greater contribution to macroeconomic theory, most people find the field at best abstract and rarefied, and at worst unpalatable. Far more exciting are the border zones between economics, politics and sociology, and as a social and political thinker, Schumpeter has much more to say to the 1980s than Keynes.

Like many prophets Schumpeter was wrong - or at least so far he seems to have been wrong - his most influential work, *Socialism, Capitalism and Democracy*, published in 1942, predicted the downfall of capitalism.

But his analysis, however inaccurate as a prognosis, is relevant to the problems facing free market governments, particularly Mrs Thatcher's.

Schumpeter, who revered capitalism, was afraid that it would be undermined not by failure, but by its success as a generator of material wealth.

He believed that the economic advances made possible by the market system would encourage attitudes antipathetic to the people and institutions on which it depended. The increasing scale of capitalist business would reduce individuals' sense of identification with the companies in which they worked.

"Economic progress tends to become depersonalized and automatized", he wrote. "Bureaucracy and committee work tends to replace individual action." In the long run the enterprising function could be rendered obsolete.

More dangerous still was the encouragement given by "the social atmosphere of capitalism" to groups of people not

actively involved in production - the professions, intellectuals and, worst of all, journalists. These groups took a critical attitude towards their society, Schumpeter maintained. This hostility would eventually lead, as part of a comprehensive assault on the "bourgeois scale of values", to "moral disapproval of the capitalist order".

As a prediction of the tone and mood in the West over the next few decades Schumpeter's remarks were perceptive. Mrs Thatcher's enthusiasm for Victorian values is clearly considered amusing by most intellectuals and journalists. It is not even regarded as an attempt, however partial and jejune, to re-establish moral foundations for the free market system.

Schumpeter realized that the large scale of the typical capitalist concern had political implications: "The political structure of a nation is profoundly affected by the elimination of a host of small and medium-sized firms, the owner-managers of which, together with their dependents, henchmen and connections, count quantitatively at the polls and have a hold on what we may term the *foreman class* that no

mistake was that he concentrated his attention on one kind of property - the capital assets operated by companies. He overlooked the role of the second important form of ownership - residential property.

While companies have become larger and more remote from their employees, the opposite process has been at work with housing. When Schumpeter was writing, most accommodation in Britain was rented.

By the end of 1982, some 59 per cent of housing was owner-occupied and the proportion is rising steadily. By the end of the decade it may approach the 70 per cent to 80 per cent level common in other Anglo-Saxon countries.

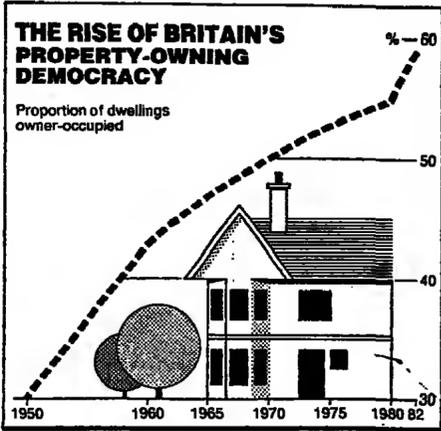
Ministers are well aware of the impact extensive owner-occupation has on social attitudes - and, also, ultimately, on voting behaviour. At the annual luncheon of the Housebuilders Federation last month Mr

Patrick Jenkin celebrated the trend towards owner-occupation as "fundamental and long-term".

There is no likelihood of the process being reversed for decades to come. Surveys show that more than three-quarters of households see owner-occupation as their ideal. In the 25- to 35-year-old age group the proportion is 90 per cent.

A nation of small-time property speculators - and that, after all, is what the British have become - is unlikely to be a nation of socialist radicals and collectivists subversives. It is not even likely to take left-inclined intellectuals very seriously, no matter their prominence in the universities and the media.

Perhaps Schumpeter's biggest



management of a large unit can ever have." The point may be overstated, but it is plausible. Schumpeter's work prompts two questions. Why has his central conclusion, the replacement of capitalism by socialism, been incorrect? And how have political leaders who support the market economy tried to defeat the corrosive cultural influences he identified?

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Perhaps Schumpeter's biggest

An assault on bourgeois scale of values

Astonishing array of petty tax measures

Advertisement for Arrow Air featuring a plane illustration and text: 'TAKE THE PLANE The only non-stop to DENVER Gateway to the West, the Rockies and the Pacific. FROM £399 RETURN. ARROW'S EXTRA VALUE PACKAGE'.

Advertisement for ELF UK PLC: 'This advertisement is issued in compliance with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange in London. ELF UK PLC (Incorporated under the Companies Acts 1948 to 1981, Registered in England No. 810743) Placing on a yield basis of £40,000,000 Unsecured Loan Stock 1991'.

Whitehall notebook Selling the estate to pay the servants

Chancellors have no doubt been getting away with murder since public spending plans were first published. But Mr Nigel Lawson got away with such a whopper a fortnight ago that it is still difficult to understand why so few cried "foul".

The bottom-line public spending total came to £126,385 billion for 1984/5. So - surprise, surprise - the magical £126.4 billion target, well trailed in the financial press for weeks, if not months, was firmly hit as the new Chancellor rose in the House on November 17. Those tortuous Star Chamber sessions to squeeze the final £2 billion or so out of offending over-spenders were not, it seemed, in vain.

The Chancellor collected those brownie points too for not touching his £3 billion contingency reserve. After his predecessor's misuse of the reserve in his pre-Election fudging of the figures, Mr Lawson could hardly have expected the City analysts not to spot that one.

Yet an equally blatant case of selling the family silver - or in this case, the family seat - to pay the creditors has apparently caused no concern. For in the current financial year, the Government expects to pick up, via local authorities in England alone, almost £1.9 billion of immediate cash from the sale of council houses and land. Add in Scotland and Wales and we are talking of well over £2 billion.

In 1984/5, the Government's forecast is more modest - £1.5 billion from England, perhaps up to £1.75 billion for the whole of Britain. These

forecasts have been consistently several hundreds of millions on the cautious side in recent years, so another £2 billion could still fill central and local government coffers from once-and-for-all house and land sales next financial year.

Where is all this cash going? Well, that depends on who is giving the answer. The Government says that it is being used to maintain a stable housing investment programme in the public sector. But a careful examination of the figures tells you that this is only half the truth. For it is effectively being used to take government out of the housing investment business far faster than ministers care to admit.

The Government's presentation of these housing investment and capital receipts figures is a Whitehall triumph of confusion over clarity. A gross annual allocation of about £3.3 billion has been set for this financial year and year 1984-85.

There is copious official survey evidence that this is the bare minimum required to resist the spiral of housing disrepair that has accelerated since the mid-1970s. Environment ministers have missed no opportunity - particularly in the run-up to the General Election - to proclaim their

commitment to repairing and maintaining our housing stock.

Yet less than half of that £3.3 billion figure represents real net investment in housing. The other half comprises simply the recycling of asset sales proceeds. The unexpectedly high level of capital receipts permits the Government to take net public spending allocations, out of housing investment and channel them elsewhere, for example, to fund a further £500m overshoot on local authority current expenditure. It is a classic example of selling off the family seat to pay the servants' wages.

To be fair, council house sales are not universally regarded as capital asset disposals. Conservative rhetoric depicts council houses as loss makers to the Exchequer whose sale provides a net saving on future public spending. And Mr Michael Heseltine, when Environment Secretary, produced in 1980 a financial appraisal of council house sales attempting to clothe this rhetoric in the authority of rigorous analysis. He failed abysmally.

His assumptions were ruthlessly torn apart by the Comptroller and Auditor-General, as well as by the all-party Commons Environment Select Committee. Council

house sales are no magical cash-rich, oil-cock transaction. They incur a long-term loss of revenue to the Exchequer - and they are sold off at 40 per cent average discount to open market value.

So the Chancellor has effectively got away with reducing his public spending total to the £126.4 billion target through about £2 billion of discounted, once-and-for-all asset disposals which can be conveniently slipped into the housing account. A fairer picture would have been to present true public spending at £128.4 billion and to set aside the £2 billion council house sale receipts as a separate Exchequer fund available for long-term reinvestment.

Jamie Stevenson The author is an economist with the National Federation of Building Trades Employers.

WALL STREET

Table of Wall Street stock prices with columns for company names and prices. Includes entries like AMP Inc, Allied Chem, Anglo Siam, etc.

Advertisement for 'THE TIMES 1000 1983/84 The World's Top Companies'. Text: 'The top 1000 UK companies with names of managing directors and chairmen, addresses and complete financial details of turnover, profits, employees, etc., largest banks, finance houses, insurance companies, building societies and investment trusts, etc. The 800 leading European, American, Japanese, Irish, Canadian, Hong Kong, Singapore, South African companies. £17.50 Available from booksellers or direct at £19.00 including postage from: TIMES BOOKS LTD. 16 Golden Square, London, W.1.'

Large advertisement for 'TONIGHT ESCAMILLO WILL BE GORED.' with a dark background and large white text.

BELLS SCOTCH WHISKY BELLS

The shares of the beleaguered tyre-company Dunlop slipped to 40p yesterday, precariously close to the year's low of 41p, as confusion spread over the Malaysian Pegi group's response to the proposed rescue operation.

Dunlop nears year's low

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Nov 28. Dealings end, Dec 9. Contango Day, Dec 12. Settlement Day, Dec 18.

Immediate intention to visit London to discuss the deal he did not rule it out. Interestingly, negotiations between the two parties have been going on in London with Pegi's financial advisers Samuel Montagu & Co.

According to Sarasin the next step is gaining a quoted vehicle and then finalising the financing arrangements before formal talks with Pegi can fruitfully take place.

Although Pegi is acting from a position of strength, apparently, the group still has potential outstanding commitments to Dunlop of £98m and £40m can be injected into a listed vehicle and a paper offer made for Dunlop.

through to the rest of the market yesterday pushing many to new yearly peaks. Jobbers were surprised by the institutional demand and some speculative buying in the three-

money supply figures for November better than expected Government Securities managed to notch up some useful gains, averaging 2 1/2% to 3%.

Insurances made good progress with Eagle Star climbing 4p to 70 1/2p, well below market expectations of a new Alliance bid reckoned to be in the region of 71 1/2p.

Hambros successfully placed the £40m of French petrol group Elf UK's unsecured loan stock through Greenwell and Cazemove. The loan stock will be payable at £25 per cent on acceptance and dealings are expected to begin tomorrow lunch time at £25 1/2.

London and Edinburgh Trust issue made a steady start showing a 2p premium over the 150p striking price.

Wayne Lintott

Table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chg, % P/E, Div Yld, % P/E. Includes various stock listings.

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Sterling Spot and Forward

Table with columns: Market rates, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months. Includes various financial data.

Money Market Rates

Table with columns: Treasury Bill, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months. Includes various financial data.

Other Markets

Table with columns: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa. Includes various financial data.

Dollar Spot Rates

Table with columns: Ireland, Netherlands, Denmark, Portugal, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Japan, Switzerland. Includes various financial data.

INVESTMENT

Table with columns: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months. Includes various financial data.

Euro-£ Deposits

Table with columns: 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 12 months. Includes various financial data.

PROPERTY PLANTATIONS MISCELLANEOUS UNLISTED SECURITIES

FOOTBALL: BURKINSHAW'S CHANCE TO CONQUER EUROPE, ENGLAND, THE WORLD

Tottenham risk two wingers and gamble on Hoddle's pride

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent
Tottenham Hotspur and Bayern Munich will tonight play a game of risk at White Hart Lane. The stakes are high. For the only time competing for a place in the quarter-finals of the Uefa Cup, but the victors will be regarded as one of the favourites to go on and win the competition.



Ardiles: could come on for the last 20 minutes.

hope that he can stay on the pitch long enough to present a genuine threat. A fortnight ago, that amounted to 45 minutes. But Rummenigge's departure merely left the stage open for his 19-year-old brother, Michael, who showed that he can be as quick and as dangerous, particularly on the break. In a manner so reminiscent of his more famous sibling, he dimmed Tottenham's lights by claiming the winner six minutes from the end.

World Cup favourites and favouritism

By Stuart Jones
The World Cup finals may be 30 months away but, shortly after three o'clock this afternoon, a record entry of 121 nations will begin to plot their routes to Mexico. The roads will each start in Zurich, where the draw is to take place at FIFA's headquarters, and 97 of them will finish short of their intended destination.

Wallace, homework finished must now pass French test

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent
That first round clout from George Fossy that halted Tony Willis's challenge for the British lightweight championship on Saturday stopped boxing experts in their tracks. They had been predicting an epic encounter. If you ask the experts about the chances of Britain's world-class flyweight Keith Wallace relieving the unranked Antoine Montero of his European title at the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel tonight they stroke their chins wisely and say "Don't know mate, not after what happened to Willis".



Wallace: weight problem

When asked "Why are you looking so pale?" Wallace answers, "Don't know, maybe it's the cold". His corner makes light of the weight problem. They are quite confident about the outcome of the bout. "He is not like Willis. He keeps his hands up. He'll walk through him. We've seen Montero on video. They know nothing about Keith and Montero has not even seen him on video," they say.

Coolness the key in freezing conditions

From Clive White, Prague
What, you ask yourself, have Watford got to smile about. They are third from bottom of the first division, a goal down from the bottom of the UEFA cup round the end and short of first-choice but ineligible players. Yet not even the temperature of minus seven (C) with accompanying snow could numb this jovial band of players, supporters and officials when they arrived here yesterday.



Jobson: erratic.

Graham Taylor, the manager, admitted it does more than what his opponent. The scenario for this second leg is tailor-made for him as it was in Sofia in the previous round. He talks excitedly about the odds that are stacked against them, the physical strength of the Spartans players, the icy weather and the passionate crowd of 30,000 perched almost on the backs of the players.

Canute Clough and the tide of passion

By Hugh Taylor
The rapturous encouragement of more than 60,000 of Britain's most passionate football supporters and the fierce determination of Scots to ensure that the old enemy from England are defeated combine to make Celtic favourites in the UEFA Cup tie with Nottingham Forest at Parkhead tonight.

Athletics Cram leads to the altar

Steve Cram, the world 1,500m champion, has cast doubts on the use of altitude training in his bid to win the Olympic title in Los Angeles next summer.

Graham returns after injury

Arthur Graham is back in Manchester United's team for their Milk Cup fourth round replay with Oxford United at Old Trafford tonight.

Cricket Rebels with backbone

Johnannesburg (Reuters) - The unofficial West Indian touring party go into their first one-day international match against South Africa side here today buoyed by a more solid batting performance in the preliminary games than in their first boycott-breaking tour earlier this year.

Kirk backs Boycott compromise

Reg Kirk, one of the leading members of the Yorkshire Members 1984 Group and also on the Yorkshire County Cricket Club general committee, has given his support for a compromise on the Boycott issue "before the county tears itself apart".

For the Record

- AMERICAN FOOTBALL: NATIONAL LEAGUE Detroit Lions 13, Minnesota Vikings 2. REAL TENNIS: London: MCC 3, Hatched House 2. MCC beat 1: A. Williams to S. Slaver, 6-2, 6-0, 6-0. B. Slaver to C. Dean, 3-6, 4-6, 6-8. B. Slaver to C. Dean, 3-6, 4-6, 6-8. A. Spooner to D. Hale, 6-2, 6-0, 6-2. RACKET: CHARLTON: Old Hartonians v Charltonhouse School, M. J. Paul and J. M. Warren to R. Allen and A. Geddes, 15-10, 15-5, 15-5, 15-10. G. R. J. McDonald and C. J. Warren to H. Ford and A. Ramsey, 16-0, 15-11, 15-10, 15-9. BASKETBALL: FIRST DIVISION: Birmingham Bullets 63, Austin Rover Sunderland 100. FOOTBALL: NARROW: Representative match: Korya 0, Switzerland 0. ICE SKATING: SUPPORT: World junior figure skating championships: Men's compulsory standing: 1. T. Cernak (USSR), 63.3; 5. E. Larson (USA), 61.3. Pairs short programme: G. Hebestra and S. Khudobin (USSR), 23.2; M. Landgraf and I. Sauer (FRG), 22.1; S. Danilov and J. Dunghin (USSR), 20.7; 4. I. Shtelnov and A. Shtelnov (USSR), 20.5; 3. D. Carr and B. Carr (AUS), 20.3. British pairing: 9. U. Cusack and N. Cusack, 20.2.

Content, but not in the pink

By George Chesterton
Charterhouse.....2 Westminster.....2
Westminster yesterday took the lead early, lost it in the second half but managed an equalizer in the dying minutes. The Charterhouse-Westminster fixture lays claims to being the oldest school match in the calendar, dating from the days before Charterhouse moved out of London. Westminster looked smart in their new blue shirts, and those who follow the passing of their pink will find solace in its retention in the cuffs and collar.

Charlton's punishment in blanket of secrecy

The troubled second division club, Charlton Athletic, has run more difficulties yesterday, when they were found guilty of breaking Football League regulations over the transfer of Ronnie Moore from Rotherham earlier this season. But Mark Hulver, who recently regained his position as chairman, left the Football League commission hearing at a London hotel with out revealing the club's punishment, and a spokesman for the commission said: "We have agreed not to make public our decision at the moment."

Hamburg's need for world title

Bonn (Reuters) - Hamburg, already out of this season's European Cup, badly need to beat Grenoble of Porto Alegre in next Sunday's world club championship final in Seoul after a pressing financial crisis.

Van Breukelen to go

Brian Clough yesterday recalled the Dutch international goalkeeper, Hans Van Breukelen, into Nottingham Forest's team, and, at the same time, arranged for the player's probable transfer back to The Netherlands. The Forest manager admitted that he had "negotiated a price" for Van Breukelen, aged 27, with PSV Eindhoven, Forest's victims in the last round.

Monday's Results

- Milk Cup Third round, third replay: Moss 2, City 3 (Birmingham at home to Liverpool). ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Worcester v Fribury, postponed. CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby 1, Newcastle 2. Second division: Wolves 1, Grimsby 0. FA YOUTH CUP: Second round: Plymouth 3, Oxford United 1. West: Southend 1, West Ham 12, Woking 1, Queen's Park Rangers 0. SOUTH EAST LEAGUE: First division: Dover 1, Gravesend and Northfleet 2. Second division: Poole 1, Addoness and Weybridge 2; Wexham 2, Ashford 4.

TONIGHT CARMEN WILL BE STABBED.

RUGBY UNION: CAMBRIDGE TAKE HONOURS AGAIN



Simms opens the floodgates and Oxford go under in late storm

By David Hands Rugby Correspondent

Oxford University... Cambridge University... For an hour at Twickenham yesterday, the dyke that was Oxford University's defence...

They walked the Oxford eight backwards. Their line out, despite the considerable efforts of Gargan, was better organised...

but that, as it proved, was the high point of their match. For most of the remainder, the were forced to play a scrambling defensive game in their own half...

Neill's pass to Pearson, however, found only Simms, who slipped the cover and fed Bailey, who leaned off Findlay and sped over for the final try...

S Africa in Of other times, tides and mores quandary

Cape Town (AFP) - South Africa will not necessarily support New Zealand's proposal for a world cup rugby union competition...

When I first used to watch the university match, it was a period of Oxford dominance. We were confident of winning even if Cambridge had the more talented side...

has never happened before. I don't think we would have approved of this in any time too opportunity for skulduggery. The only people who were really permitted to switch universities, we felt, were masters men such as professors of moral theology...

I thought it a poor match, and at times unnecessarily ill-tempered, until the last 20 minutes, when Cambridge got going. No Oxford man had complained about the result. We can only hope that MacNeill will be fully fit next December, and in the meantime concentrate our thoughts on the Tideway, and possible emigrations of professors of moral theology...

Campbell in time for Irish trial

The Ireland fly half Ollie Campbell says his first senior game this season when he turns out for Old Glory against Old Wesley on Saturday. He has recovered from a severe virus infection and is expected to be named tomorrow for the Irish trial.

Miss Kiehl goes up for the downhill

After an introductory skirmish or two in Yugoslavia and Austria, the points she begins in earnest here in Savoie today. The sport, like many others, has been subjected to upheavals in many areas. But Critérium de la Première Neige retains its place as the springboard for the whole season.

RUGBY LEAGUE

A Rugby League appeals board yesterday quashed the sine die suspension imposed last month on the Falkland Isles. John Dalgren said he was satisfied that there had been "certain irregularities" in the disciplinary committee proceedings...

Dalgren's suspension is reduced

A Rugby League appeals board yesterday quashed the sine die suspension imposed last month on the Falkland Isles. John Dalgren said he was satisfied that there had been "certain irregularities" in the disciplinary committee proceedings...

ICE HOCKEY: Paul Beard of Ayr Bruins is Heintzen coach of the month for November after leading his team to the top of the British League premier division. Doug Merkley (Stram) and Axel Skjold (Crowtree) were the scoring awards for the premier and first divisions respectively.

SWIMMING: The 1984 national short course championships will be held at Darlington from April 5-8.

SOXING: Chang Jung-Koo of South Korea, the WBC light-flyweight champion, has pulled out of a title defence against Sot Chitalada of Thailand on December 17 after failing to recover from a training injury. The bout has been rescheduled for the end of January.

FOOTBALL: Port Vale have appointed John Rudge caretaker manager following the dismissal of John McGrath. Rudge joined the club four years ago as assistant manager.

RACING: SENIOR STEWARD EXPLAINS REJECTION OF YORK SPONSORSHIP

Jockey Club offer olive branch

By Michael Seely

Details of the new sponsorship of five or six Pattern races are to be announced in the near future. It is also thought likely that the £100,000 which was offered by Robert Sangster for the sponsorship of a nine-furlong race at the Timeform Charity Day fixture at the York June meeting may be able to be used in another form.

They come and talk to us about their aims and requirements a satisfactory solution can nearly always be found.

Exercising his prerogative to speak as one of the joint owners of Freehold Stakes, Lord Westwood was understood to be querying the wisdom of turning down such an offer, even if it conflicted with the existing pattern.

takes too much from betting, a far greater proportion of deductions than in any other major racing nation.

"To put our relative interest into perspective, it is perhaps appropriate to remind you that for every horse that runs last year, the Chancellor received over £3,000 in betting duty, whilst only £272 came back to racing through the levy, and that average off-course betting turnover is more than £7.25 million a day on each of the 310 days in the year when there is horse racing.

Worcester

Going: hurdles, good to firm; chase, good. 1.0 RUSHOCK HURDLE (Div 1: 3-y-o novices: 2m) (16 runners) 1.0 RUSHOCK HURDLE (Div 1: 3-y-o novices: 2m) (16 runners) 1.0 RUSHOCK HURDLE (Div 1: 3-y-o novices: 2m) (16 runners)

Carson helps new series

Willie Carson, who recalls that it took him four years to ride his first winner, will also, perhaps more significantly, points out that young jockeys were not allowed to carry whips in their first races when he began. It is to encourage school leavers to consider a career in racing through the Polytech-Willie Carson Apprentice Challenge next year (Jobs Karter writes).

Carson helps new series

Carson almost "biting and cooing" with his horse, the Stewards' Cup with Autumn Sunset, is just one of the many outstanding photographs of racing people, horses and places around the world in the new series of 12 (29) which is published by the master statisticians of Trainer Record.

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Leicester results

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Zabeer hopes for an return

كندا من الأصل

حذرات الاعداد

CRICKET

Zaheer hopes for an upturn

Adelaide (AP) - The Pakistani tour party arrived in Adelaide yesterday for the third Test match against Australia...

OPERA & BALLET

BLOOMSBURY, Gordon St WC1 3JH. The Royal Opera House Covent Garden...

CONCERTS

ROYAL ALBERT HALL, South Kensington SW7 5XJ. The Proms...

THEATRES

ADRIAN PHOENIX, 1011 E. 2nd St. Adelaide. The Australian Cricket Board...

APOLLO VICTORIA

CLIFF RICHARD. Standing Room Tickets...

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE

BARBARIC, 629 Rte 638 8991. Royal Shakespeare Theatre...

THE ROYAL OPERA

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LYRIC THEATRE

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. DANNY LA RUE. Musical Theatre...

THEATRE

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PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE

DANNY LA RUE. Musical Theatre. Standing Room Tickets...

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PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE. DANNY LA RUE. Musical Theatre...

ST. MARTIN'S

THE MOUSETRAP. Musical Theatre. Standing Room Tickets...

THEATRE

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ART GALLERIES

ALBANY GALLERY 1, Bury St. EC4A 3DF. Contemporary art...

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CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1, 437 Portico. The Godfather Part II...

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1, 437 Portico. The Godfather Part II...

Zaheer: optimistic

There is no room for the England women's cricket team at Lord's in 1984...

No Lord's for the ladies

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PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

IN PARLIAMENTARY SESSION: 1983-84. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN...

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL. UEFA Cup. Third round, second leg. Anderlecht (1) v Lens (7.0)...

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Advertisement for 'To advertise in the Times or Sunday Times' with contact information.

Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax AM. 6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours...

TV-am

6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and John Stapleton. A review of the morning papers at 6.25...

TV/LONDON

9.25 Thames news headlines 6.30 Have You Seen This? A preview of schools programmes for managers beginning with Good Health...



Helene Delavault as Carmen: Channel 4, 9.00pm

CHOICE

The world television premiere of the first Peter Brook's three films, THE TRAGEDY OF CARMEN...

BBC 2

9.35 News summary with subtitles. 9.40 Kick Start. The final of the motorcycle trials competition for the Lombard Trophy...

CHANNEL 4

5.00 Countdown. The second quarter final of the anagrams competition and the number two seed, William Bradford...

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today featuring the Royal Society Show, London. 6.25 Shipping Forecast...

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Newsweek Choice: part two. Works by Hummel and Shostakovich...

Radio 2

6.00 Ray Moore's 7.30 Terry Wogan. 10.00 Jimmy Young. 12.00 Music While You Work. 12.30 Gloria...

Radio 1

6.00am Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 8.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith. 12.30 News...

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; Radio 4: 200kHz/150m; VHF: 92.5; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service FM 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Wales 12.57pm-1.00 News of Wales Headlines. 1.00-1.30 News of Wales Headlines. 1.30-1.55 News of Wales Headlines. 1.55-2.00 News of Wales Headlines...

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Design Editorial Secretary. An experienced, highly competent secretary is required to assist the editor of DESIGN magazine and his team in most areas of their work.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. Embassier Secretary (with shorthand) required to work in Fund Raising Office in the Dean's Yard.

Initiative £6,000. If you enjoy challenges, have an ability to deal with people at all levels and work at a quick pace, then the exciting Director of Sales at Management Resources Company will be a challenge for you.

TO NIGHT OPERA REALLY COMES TO LIFE. Peter Brook, arguably the greatest stage director of our time, brings his masterpiece, The Tragedy of Carmen, to the stage.

RECEPTIONIST OF THE YEAR - £7,000. Receptionist of the Year award for the best of Estate Agents seeks a very well educated, sophisticated Receptionist to manage the great VIP clients and to present a first class, sales professional image.

£8m book vendors' identity is secret

By Geraldine Norman Sale Room Correspondent West Germany expressed its delight yesterday at the purchase of the Gospels of Henry the Lion.

Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the Minister of the Interior, described the manuscript as one of the most important and valuable art treasures of German culture.

Its importance could not be compared with that of any other work because of the many textual and pictorial references to the history of its period and the light it threw on the spiritual world and political deeds of Henry the Lion.

The manuscript will go to an institution in Lower Saxony, probably the great library at Wolfenbützel.

The identity of the Gospels' vendors has been kept as closely guarded secret. From the fourteenth century until 1861 the manuscript belonged to Prague Cathedral. It was then purchased by the King of Hanover.

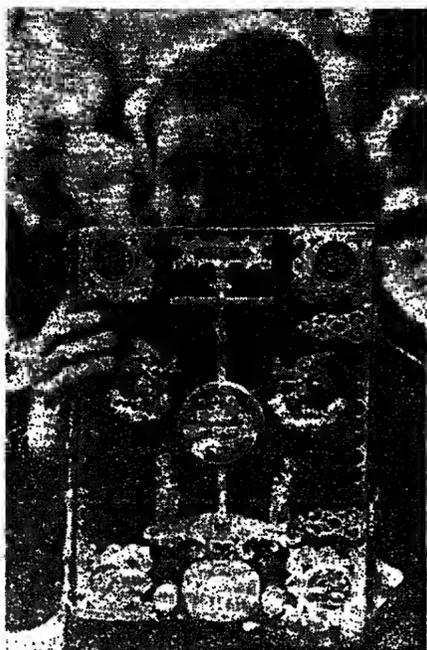
It was last seen by scholars in the 1930s when it belonged to the Prince of Hanover and was kept at Gmunden in Austria.

The family removed it from Austria shortly before Hitler invaded and its whereabouts has been more or less unknown since then, although it was in London in 1949 when it was offered for sale to the British Museum on behalf of the Prince of Hanover.

According to Christopher de Hamel, the Sotheby's manuscript expert, it was acquired by the present owners from the Prince of Hanover at some time after 1949.

He agrees that the words "owners" and "acquired" are carefully chosen. There was more than one owner and "acquired" can cover a gift or bequest.

It is widely believed that the manuscript passed at the death of Prince Ernst August of Hanover in 1953 to other members of his family, possibly to all his children, including the present Prince.



The Gospels on display yesterday and a delighted Herr Abs (centre, in spectacles) after the auction. (Photographs: Suresh Karadia).

Jerusalem bomb kills four

Continued from page 1 renewed pressure today from Labour and from some of the Government's backbench supporters to withdraw the British contingent from the peacekeeping force in Lebanon (Our Political Editor writes).

In her absence yesterday in Athens, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, promised MPs that since Lebanon had been discussed at the European Council it would figure in Mrs Margaret Thatcher's report in the Commons today on the Council's proceedings.

Yesterday Conservative MPs were led to believe that although the role of the small British force was under constant review, there was no likelihood of their early withdrawal.

Yet it was noted that, in interviews given to broadcasters in Athens, Mrs Thatcher qualified her denials that withdrawal

was under consideration. To Mr Tim Sebastian, of BBC Television News, she said she had heard the rumour "but there is no truth in the rumour at the moment".

In the same answer she pointed out that there was to be a meeting in Brussels tomorrow of the four foreign ministers of the multinational force.

Asked if she believed the four-nation force could still carry out its purpose in Lebanon, Mrs Thatcher replied cautiously: "It just can at the moment".

BRUSSELS: Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, said yesterday that although Britain kept the presence of its troops in Lebanon under constant review he did not consider that the weekend air attacks constituted a fundamental change to the

basic circumstances in Beirut (Rodney Cowton writes).

Mr Heseltine, who is attending a meeting of the Nato Defence Planning Committee in Brussels, gave his account of recent developments to journalists after the severe criticism of the Government in the Commons on Monday.

He said: "At the moment when the American retaliation took place in the early hours of Sunday morning it was obviously my responsibility to establish as quickly as possible what the position was, as the Americans saw it, because it could have implications for other members of the peace-keeping force."

He spoke to Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, on the telephone. Photograph and Syria plays it cool, page 7

EEC facing collapse after Athens fiasco

Continued from page 1

Andreas Papanandrou, hoped for a happy outcome under the French presidency but if this failed, he added, "then the end of the Community will be visible".

Mrs Thatcher started the day having breakfast with the French President and afterwards there was an attempt by spokesmen of both countries to quash any idea that there had been an Anglo-French clash.

But Mrs Thatcher was at no pains during her press conference to hide her annoyance at the way the French President had behaved.

The Prime Minister refused to accept any criticism that she had been rigid or isolated. "The only way I am irate is that I never mid pleading

guilty to sticking out for durable solutions."

"She poured scorn on the way "some other countries had run away from the problems. All the others are takers, she said, and I do resent it very much when they talk about British demands. We are not making demands. We are giving notice that we cannot continue paying in as much as we pay now."

Mrs Thatcher was "not prepared to stagger from compromise to compromise". The Community needed a long-term solution which would give a lasting settlement.

The British tactic from now on is to wait for the other countries to come forward with acceptable proposals. The view is that imminent bankruptcy will drive them to the negotiating table.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Welsh accent on Chinese missiles

Those of us unassuming metropolitans who sometimes have difficulty with such accents as the Welsh, yesterday understood Mr Roy Hughes, a Labour member from the principality, reveal that cruise missiles were coming in via Barry Docks for storage at Taiwan.

Mr Hughes confronted Mr John Biffen, the Leader of the House, with this news when Mr Biffen was deputizing for Prime Minister's question time while Mrs Thatcher was on her way back from the Commons Market meeting in Athens.

Guidance from one's Celtic colleagues later made it plain that Mr Hughes was referring, not to Taiwan, but to a place spelled Caerwent which, unlike with the People's Republic of China as indeed do such other powers in the region as Cwmbran and Pontypridd.

But I was not to know any of that at the time. As far as I was concerned, the remorselessly melodious voice of Mr Hughes demanded of Mr Biffen: "Has there been any change in government policy about American bases in this country? I have reports that parts of cruise missiles are coming in via Barry Docks for storage at Taiwan. I was informed by Lord Trefgarne, the Minister of State at the Department of Defence, that he could not attempt to answer the question, whereas previously I had been assured that there would be no nuclear presence at Taiwan."

All of us should of course have grasped immediately that if the Nationalist Chinese wanted to receive cruise missiles by the most convenient route, they would not obviously opt for Barry Docks, if only because of subsequent delays on the M4. But many of us have heard much of the subtlety of the Chinese as a race.

Mr Biffen, one felt, had almost certainly understood Mr Hughes to be referring to Taiwan too. Or if he had understood him to refer to Caerwent, he had nonetheless understood him to refer to

Lord Taiwan rather than Lord Trefgarne.

Mr Biffen, a Little Englander who was a distinguished opponent of British entry into the Common Market, is thought to pride himself on his lack of detailed knowledge of abroad. So it was perfectly obvious that yesterday he could not care less one way or the other. Trefgarne, like all those exotically entitled ministers in the Lords, was just a name to him.

"I am not sure certain of the hon Gentleman's desire for illumination," he replied. British policy remained unchanged, he said. Mr Hughes looked suspicious as if there were more to all this than the Government was letting on, which was indeed the case if I got it right in the first place and he had said Taiwan.

The incident illustrated the exceptional difficulties encountered by Mr Biffen during these several occasions lately when he has deputized for the Prime Minister.

Questions have been hurled at him on subjects with which he had not concerned himself hitherto. The Conservative, Mr Anthony Warlow, demanded of him yesterday: "Will the Right hon Gentleman advise the Camden Women Against Cruise, who decided recently at a meeting of the Kentish Town Women's Workshop to go flashing at Greenham Common, not to bother?"

Mr Marlow went on to say that instead of flashing the women should watch the film The Day After. Mr Biffen confined himself to saying that Mr Marlow's advice was "well directed," obviously seeing it as no part of his function to tell any women whether they should flash, watch a particular film or choose any other form of entertainment.

We moved on to the Labour member, Mr Austin Mitchell, seeking leave to bring in his Bill to limit political donations by companies to political parties, by which he meant the Tory Party. Leave was of course denied him by a majority of 99.

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Continued from page 1

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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen meets with the officers of the Royal Tank Regiment at Merchant Taylors' Hall, 8.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother dines with the Benchers at the Middle Temple, 7.45.

The Prince of Wales visits Moorside School, Newcastle upon Tyne, 11; and later as President, the Widows' Trust, visits the Washington Waterfront Park, Washington, Sunderland, 12.25. His Royal Highness, Honorary Commodore, HM Coastguard opens HM Coast-

guard's Maritime Rescue Coordination Sub Centre, Tynemouth, 2.

The Princess of Wales visits the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Activities Centre, Bursledon, Southampton, 11; and in the evening as Patron of the Welsh National Opera, attends a performance of Carmen by the Welsh National Opera at the Dominion Theatre, London, 7.25.

Princess Anne, Patron of the Royal Tournament, attends a reception to launch the Royal Tournament of 1984 at St James's Palace, SW1, 6.30; and later, as Commandant-in-Chief, St John Ambulance and Nursing cadets,

attends the St John Gala Ball at the Inter-Continental Hotel, 8.20.

The Duke of Gloucester, President, the Royal Smithfield Club, attends the Annual General Meeting at Earls Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road entrance, 3.55.

The Duke of Kent, President of the Football Association, attends the 100th Association Football match between Oxford and Cambridge University, Wembley Stadium, 12.15.

Prince Michael of Kent attends the Springfield Boys Club annual prizegiving, Springfield Club, London, 7.

New exhibitions

Paintings, Prints and Drawings by David Hack, Sarah James, Nicholas Sheath and Nigel Tomlinson, Exhibition Gallery, Faculty of Art and Design, Southampton College of Higher Education, East Park Terrace, Southampton; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 4.30, closed Sat and Sun, (ends Jan 13).

Music

Recital by Tasmin Little (violin) and Mary Wu (piano), City Art Gallery, The Headrow, Leeds, 1.05.

Concert by the New London Consort, Dillington Arts Centre, Dillington, 7.45.

Halls Concert, Free Trade Hall, Peter Street, Manchester, 7.30.

Concert by the Lichfield Cathedral Choir, Susan Drake (harp) and Christian Steele-Perkins (trumpet), Town Hall, Burton-on-Trent, 7.30.

Cambridge Cantata Club perform Six Centuries of Carols, St Edward, King and Martyr Church, Cambridge, 8.

Talks, Lectures

Foucault's Pendulum and Absolute Rotation, by Prof Brian Pippard, Large Theatre, Poynting Building, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, 11.

Fashion through painting, by Joyce Clark, North Tyesside College of Further Education, Newcastle upon Tyne, 12.30.

Soul, Song and Society - occasions for making music by J. Calder, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 2.

Issues in the use of microcomputers in primary and secondary education, by Ian McNah, the Findlay Society, Room B4, Humanities Building, Manchester University, Manchester, 6.

Why canals? by Graham Ennis, Cathedral School, Canle Street, Hereford, 8.

Henry VII and Henry VIII by Dr David Starkey, Lecture Room 3, McCune Building, Strathclyde, 5.30.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Town and Country Planning Bill second reading. Debate on EEC fisheries policy.

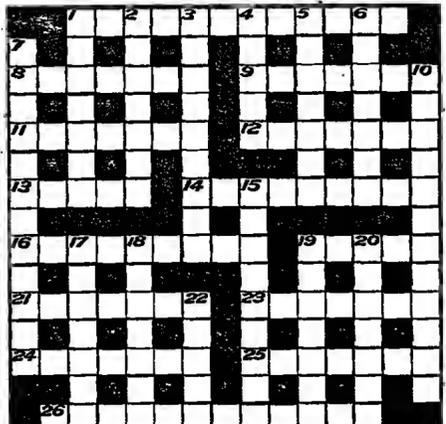
Lords (2.30): Debate on ethnic and religious minorities.

COMMISSIONER COMPETITION

WISER TWELVE DAY 6

CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 14

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,303



ACROSS

- 1 Debar the film version - it's all black and white (4-8). 2 Fold (7). 3 Satisfying assembly for worship (7). 4 Embroideress caught by copier (5). 5 Sounds like a character - Lear perhaps - with daughter Beryl (7). 6 Some feel it is management by top people (7). 7 A poor act, this pose of the worldly-wise (12). 8 Business of an immature dealer is not frozen (12). 9 Having no fixture, the box is empty (9). 10 Do a job badly with one top (7). 11 Sign of length or position in service (7). 12 Train a rode mechanic (7). 13 Not chosen as a chap in put one over the French (7). 14 Sort of tide on the east river is more advanced (5). 15 Urah is punch-drunk, we hear (7). 16 Take words at their face value (3-4). 17 With his position in society he may well be an Hon (9).

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Solution of Puzzle No 16,302



New books - hardback

The Literary Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:

A History of the Indian People, by D. P. Sinha (Methuen, £19.95).

By Word of Mouth, Ellen Ghal Heston, by Anthony Seldon and Joanna Pappworth (Simon & Schuster, £11.95).

Marking Scores of Piaget, the Philosophical Roots, by Christine Atkinson (Routledge & Kegan Paul, £11.95).

Political Disagreements, by Ronald Bainer (Methuen, £11.95).

Political Violence in India, Government and Resistance since 1948, by Charles Townshend (Oxford, £22.50).

Renaissance Painting in Manuscripts, Treasures of the British Library, edited by Thomas Kraus (Paul Getty Museum & British Library, £25).

St Basil's Sermons, by St Basil (Penguin, £19.95).

The Dictionary of Ewan MacGregor English, by Kenneth Hudson (Macmillan, £12.95).

The Great Palace, the Story of Parliament, by Christopher Jones (BBC, £12.95). PH

Bond winners

Winning numbers in the weekly draw for Premium Bond prizes are:

£10,000: 11AZ 99812 (the winner lives in Harrogate); 13W 62345; 14X 73456; 15Y 84567; 16Z 95678; 17A 06789; 18B 17890; 19C 28901; 20D 39012; 21E 40123; 22F 51234; 23G 62345; 24H 73456; 25I 84567; 26J 95678; 27K 06789; 28L 17890; 29M 28901; 30N 39012; 31O 40123; 32P 51234; 33Q 62345; 34R 73456; 35S 84567; 36T 95678; 37U 06789; 38V 17890; 39W 28901; 40X 39012; 41Y 40123; 42Z 51234; 43AA 62345; 44BB 73456; 45CC 84567; 46DD 95678; 47EE 06789; 48FF 17890; 49GG 28901; 50HH 39012; 51II 40123; 52JJ 51234; 53KK 62345; 54LL 73456; 55MM 84567; 56NN 95678; 57OO 06789; 58PP 17890; 59QQ 28901; 60RR 39012; 61SS 40123; 62TT 51234; 63UU 62345; 64VV 73456; 65WW 84567; 66XX 95678; 67YY 06789; 68ZZ 17890; 69AA 28901; 70BB 39012; 71CC 40123; 72DD 51234; 73EE 62345; 74FF 73456; 75GG 84567; 76HH 95678; 77II 06789; 78JJ 17890; 79KK 28901; 80LL 39012; 81MM 40123; 82NN 51234; 83OO 62345; 84PP 73456; 85QQ 84567; 86RR 95678; 87SS 06789; 88TT 17890; 89UU 28901; 90VV 39012; 91WW 40123; 92XX 51234; 93YY 62345; 94ZZ 73456; 95AA 84567; 96BB 95678; 97CC 06789; 98DD 17890; 99EE 28901; 00FF 39012; 01GG 40123; 02HH 51234; 03II 62345; 04JJ 73456; 05KK 84567; 06LL 95678; 07MM 06789; 08NN 17890; 09OO 28901; 10PP 39012; 11QQ 40123; 12RR 51234; 13SS 62345; 14TT 73456; 15UU 84567; 16VV 95678; 17WW 06789; 18XX 17890; 19YY 28901; 20ZZ 39012; 21AA 40123; 22BB 51234; 23CC 62345; 24DD 73456; 25EE 84567; 26FF 95678; 27GG 06789; 28HH 17890; 29II 28901; 30JJ 39012; 31KK 40123; 32LL 51234; 33MM 62345; 34NN 73456; 35OO 84567; 36PP 95678; 37QQ 06789; 38RR 17890; 39SS 28901; 40TT 39012; 41UU 40123; 42VV 51234; 43WW 62345; 44XX 73456; 45YY 84567; 46ZZ 95678; 47AA 06789; 48BB 17890; 49CC 28901; 50DD 39012; 51EE 40123; 52FF 51234; 53GG 62345; 54HH 73456; 55II 84567; 56JJ 95678; 57KK 06789; 58LL 17890; 59MM 28901; 60NN 39012; 61OO 40123; 62PP 51234; 63QQ 62345; 64RR 73456; 65SS 84567; 66TT 95678; 67UU 06789; 68VV 17890; 69WW 28901; 70XX 39012; 71YY 40123; 72ZZ 51234; 73AA 62345; 74BB 73456; 75CC 84567; 76DD 95678; 77EE 06789; 78FF 17890; 79GG 28901; 80HH 39012; 81II 40123; 82JJ 51234; 83KK 62345; 84LL 73456; 85MM 84567; 86NN 95678; 87OO 06789; 88PP 17890; 89QQ 28901; 90RR 39012; 91SS 40123; 92TT 51234; 93UU 62345; 94VV 73456; 95WW 84567; 96XX 95678; 97YY 06789; 98ZZ 17890; 99AA 28901; 00BB 39012; 01CC 40123; 02DD 51234; 03EE 62345; 04FF 73456; 05GG 84567; 06HH 95678; 07II 06789; 08JJ 17890; 09KK 28901; 10LL 39012; 11MM 40123; 12NN 51234; 13OO 62345; 14PP 73456; 15QQ 84567; 16RR 95678; 17SS 06789; 18TT 17890; 19UU 28901; 20VV 39012; 21WW 40123; 22XX 51234; 23YY 62345; 24ZZ 73456; 25AA 84567; 26BB 95678; 27CC 06789; 28DD 17890; 29EE 28901; 30FF 39012; 31GG 40123; 32HH 51234; 33II 62345; 34JJ 73456; 35KK 84567; 36LL 95678; 37MM 06789; 38NN 17890; 39OO 28901; 40PP 39012; 41QQ 40123; 42RR 51234; 43SS 62345; 44TT 73456; 45UU 84567; 46VV 95678; 47WW 06789; 48XX 17890; 49YY 28901; 50ZZ 39012; 51AA 40123; 52BB 51234; 53CC 62345; 54DD 73456; 55EE 84567; 56FF 95678; 57GG 06789; 58HH 17890; 59II 28901; 60JJ 39012; 61KK 40123; 62LL 51234; 63MM 62345; 64NN 73456; 65OO 84567; 66PP 95678; 67QQ 06789; 68RR 17890; 69SS 28901; 70TT 39012; 71UU 40123; 72VV 51234; 73WW 62345; 74XX 73456; 75YY 84567; 76ZZ 95678; 77AA 06789; 78BB 17890; 79CC 28901; 80DD 39012; 81EE 40123; 82FF 51234; 83GG 62345; 84HH 73456; 85II 84567; 86JJ 95678; 87KK 06789; 88LL 17890; 89MM 28901; 90NN 39012; 91OO 40123; 92PP 51234; 93QQ 62345; 94RR 73456; 95SS 84567; 96TT 95678; 97UU 06789; 98VV 17890; 99WW 28901; 00XX 39012; 01YY 40123; 02ZZ 51234; 03AA 62345; 04BB 73456; 05CC 84567; 06DD 95678; 07EE 06789; 08FF 17890; 09GG 28901; 10HH 39012; 11II 40123; 12JJ 51234; 13KK 62345; 14LL 73456; 15MM 84567; 16NN 95678; 17OO 06789; 18PP 17890; 19QQ 28901; 20RR 39012; 21SS 40123; 22TT 51234; 23UU 62345; 24VV 73456; 25WW 84567; 26XX 95678; 27YY 06789; 28ZZ 17890; 29AA 28901; 30BB 39012; 31CC 40123; 32DD 51234; 33EE 62345; 34FF 73456; 35GG 84567; 36HH 95678; 37II 06789; 38JJ 17890; 39KK 28901; 40LL 39012; 41MM 40123; 42NN 51234; 43OO 62345; 44PP 73456; 45QQ 84567; 46RR 95678; 47SS 0678